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TUC PLAN REJECTED BY WALKER

Scargill 'boasts' are blamed

By MAURICE WEAVER Industrial Staff
THE team of union leaders monitoring the miners' strike yesterday put suggestions to the Government for a return-to-work formula, but found Ministers determined not to give way on the central issue of the Coal Board's right to close uneconomic pits.

The Energy Minister, Mr Walker, refused to consider reopening negotiations with the miners while their president, Mr Arthur Scargill, "boasts at every rally" that he will not move from his position on pit closures.

Mr Scargill's demand was impossible to meet, said Mr Walker, and "so long as that demand is there then there can be no settlement."

The meeting, which was also attended by the Employment Minister, Mr King, ended after 90 minutes.

Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, who headed a delegation of six senior union leaders, commented later: "I am bound to say it is disappointing."

The Coal Board and the miners' union were not represented at the TUC-inspired talks, which were intended to find ways of getting the two sides together again after a six-week deadlock.

Mr Willis said his team moved, but insisting that they will keep on trying, will now report their findings to the TUC's "inner cabinet," its Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Pledge sought on flexibility

Their message to Mr Scargill and to the TUC's general council which meets on Wednesday must be that while there was a measure of agreement in some areas at yesterday's talks, no real progress had been made in removing the central stumbling block: the Government's insistence that the NUM must "indicate advance flexibility" before negotiations can resume.

The TUC had proposed a return-to-work plan built around three points: the Coal Board's programme of production cut-backs (four million tonnes this year) and job cuts (up to 20,000) announced on March 6 should be shelved; the understanding that, after a 10-month strike, it is no longer relevant.

Five pits whose future is said by the union to be in jeopardy should remain open and subjected to further review.

The Plan for Coal, the industry's main strategy document, should be re-examined with both the board and the union submitting revised proposals. A deadline should be placed on this process.

The miners' union was said to be "neither committed nor opposed" to the plan though observers remain sceptical that Mr Scargill would agree to a return on such a basis.

Ford peace formula may end £200m strike

By STEPHEN WARD Industrial Staff
HOPES of an end to a strike by 270 sewing machinists which has halted all Ford car production rose last night.

The company and its trade union leaders reached a peace formula which will be put to leaders of the 270 machinists on Monday.

More than 10,000 Ford workers have been laid off without pay at Halewood, Merseyside, Dagenham in East London, and Southampton because of the four-week strike.

The machinists, who have been trying to get their jobs upgraded since 1968, make seat covers. The dispute has already cost £200 million in lost production, at showroom prices.

It has also delayed payment of 2.7 per cent pay rise to Ford's 40,500 workers by three weeks, because under the company's negotiating procedures the unions cannot sign the deal until the machinists' dispute has been resolved.

Neither side would disclose details of the formula last night but Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union and chief union negotiator at Ford, said it "may well bridge the gap."

Previous talks on Nov. 26 foundered over how the machinists' case could be re-examined. The company suggested the use of management experts but the unions said any examination must be independent.

The machinists want regrading which, under the new wage offer, would raise their weekly pay by £5-67 to £144-54.

UNION ROBBED
Aston Rover shop stewards were robbed of more than £4,000 yesterday by three coloured men who burst into Longbridge Club and Institute, Birmingham, as the stewards were paying out money to some men.

Scargill must pay £1,000

By JAMES O'BRIEN
MR ARTHUR SCARGILL, fined £250 with £750 costs yesterday for obstruction while picketing, said last night he would not appeal "because in this political climate I have no faith in getting a fair trial."

Speaking at a miners' meeting in Grimethorpe, Yorkshire, Mr Scargill claimed he had been a victim of a "travesty of justice."

His lawyers had "strongly advised" him to appeal, but he had "no faith in the courts."

He went on: "My barrister argued a case today that would have ensured not only the Great Train Robbers would be freed, but they would have got another extra £1 million."

"When he foisted the case I was on my feet cheering. Even the backs of Fleet Street were betting 10-1 we would win."

Two charges

In court at Rotherham, Mr Scargill pleaded not guilty to two charges of obstruction outside the Orgreave coke plant, South Yorkshire, in May.

He was given 28 days to pay Mr William Probert, one of the special stipendiary magistrates appointed in mining areas to deal with offences arising from the pit dispute, told him "in my judgment, your actions on that particular morning demonstrated a very poor example to those you seek to lead."

Mr Roger Keen, counsel for the police, said Mr Scargill had refused to move on when asked by Chief Supt John Webb and had told the group he was leading to "stand firm."

Mr Michael Mansfield, defending, told the court that Mr Scargill and others leading the NUM strike had not received any income since last February.

"He is not in a position to deal with heavy fines and costs in this case."

LONDON POLY INQUIRY CHIEF

By Our Education Staff
The special inquiry into the running of the London Polytechnic, ordered by Inner London Education Authority, is to be led by Miss Sheila Browne, principal of Newham College and former Senior Chief Inspector, H.M.I.

After the early retirement last week of Dr David Macdonald, the polytechnic's director, the ILEA leader, Mrs Frances Morrell, said an inquiry was necessary because there were "grounds for concern" about the polytechnic's management and organisation.

BUCKS FIZZ MAN STILL CRITICAL

Attempts were continuing last night to talk Mike Nolan, 30, the Bucks Fizz singer, out of a deep coma with hundreds of well-wishing messages from friends and celebrities.

He is critically ill on a life support machine in Newcastle upon Tyne General Hospital after being hurled through the windscreen of the group's coach in a crash on Tuesday.

£25,000 ARMY SILVER STOLEN

By Our Crime Staff
Military silverware worth £25,000 to £100,000 has been stolen from the Royal Green Jackets Club in Davies Street, Mayfair.

It includes the Victoria Rifles Challenge Cup of 1879, the Rifle and Lewis Gun Cup 1874, a wine pitcher of the St George's Rifles dated 1890-91 and the Kenya Defence Cup.

£83m SCHOOL BILL

By Our Political Staff
The Government spent £83 million last year on the education of children of public servants at boarding schools, the Prime Minister said yesterday in reply to a Commons question from Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby.

PRIEST TRIAL DATE

The trial of four Interior Ministry officials charged with killing the Rev. Jerzy Popieluszko, the pro-solidarity priest, will begin on Dec. 27 at Torun, Poland.—AP.

INDEX TO OTHER PAGES

Page	Page
Art	Entertainments Guide
Arts Notices	Leader Page
Births, Marriages and	Music
Deaths	Nature
Brain-twister	Obituaries
Bridge	Personal
Chess	Saturday Column
City News 15, 16, 17, 18,	Sport
19 and 20	TV and Radio
City Prices	Travel
Concerts	Woman's Page
Court and Social	World of Books



Arthur Scargill protesting his innocence after being fined £250 in Rotherham yesterday for obstruction.

Shares soar after tax cuts hint

By FRANCES WILLIAMS Economics Correspondent
THE Stock Market soared to new peaks yesterday on a wave of optimism following reports that the Chancellor may have more scope to cut taxes in the budget than previously thought.

Further encouragement for the Government came from figures showing a slight drop in the yearly inflation rate last month to 4.8 per cent, from 5 per cent in October.

Ministers are confident that this month will see a further decline, helped by the cut in mortgage rates.

The Financial Times Index closed 7.8 up at a record 833.4, having climbed even higher earlier in the day.

Investors were spurred by suggestions Mr Lawson, the Chancellor, may have some £5 billion in hand for tax cuts next spring, rather than the £1.5 billion foreshadowed in his autumn statement last month.

NEW M-WAY WARNING PLAN

By JOHN LANGLEY Motoring Correspondent
DEVELOPMENT of a motorway warning system halted two years ago for lack of money might be restarted after the M25 fog crash in which nine people died.

The Transport Department said yesterday that "subject to financial clearance" development of the Auto-Warn system could resume early next year. It uses wiring laid in the road to monitor traffic flows.

Any sudden hold up, such as a fog accident, would activate warning signs to alert approaching drivers. The display gantries involved are already installed on some motorways.

The existing gantry signs have to be switched on by police. The Department could not yet say whether the system would be considered for the M25.

LEGISLATION OUTPUT CUT

By Our Political Staff
The weight of legislation passed by Parliament last year was the lowest since the year the present Government took office, Mr Barney Hayhoe, minister of State at the Treasury said yesterday.

The number of pages in new legislation for England and Wales enacted in 1983, he said, was 660 compared with a low of 550 in 1979, and a peak of 1,690 in 1975 under the Labour Government.

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U.S. NAVY MAY BAN BEARDS

By Our Washington Staff
The U.S. Navy is considering banning beards. Admiral James Watkins, Chief of Naval Operations, has asked his commanders worldwide for their "thoughts" on the subject.

Under present regulations, no one under the rank of petty officer, third class, and officers in "positions of special authority or high-visibility positions" may not have one.

Writer jailed for helping friend to die

By IAN HENRY Old Bailey Correspondent

THE author of children's books and a murder mystery, Helen Charlotte Hough, was jailed for nine months yesterday for helping a frail, deaf and near-blind 83-year-old friend to commit suicide.

Hough, 60, mother of four children, denied murder, but admitted attempted murder.

Judge Tom Piggott Q.C., the Common Sergeant, was told at the Old Bailey that Hough had kept a promise to her friend, Miss Annetta Harding.

She put a plastic bag over Miss Harding's head, when a supposedly lethal mixture of drugs and drink failed to end her life after two hours.

Before being led away to begin her sentence at Holloway jail, Hough was told by Judge Piggott that he was satisfied she was a caring, sympathetic and compassionate woman who had acted out of the best Christian principles.

But he added: "The law exists to protect the sanctity of life, even if that life is of a person in a coma, on the verge of death."

"What you did was to accelerate death, which was probably inevitable in a very short time."

"I have no desire to punish you, but I must bear in mind public policy."

"I must have in mind the need to deter others less altruistic than you who wish to accelerate death in different circumstances."

Hough, of Ivor Street, Camden Town, formerly married to the Mountbatten biographer Mr Richard Hough, admitted attempted murder after the prosecution dropped the charge of murder.

Medical experts had said they were uncertain whether the plastic bag being placed over her head had actually killed Miss Harding.

It was said that Miss Harding, 83, was expected to make up to £500,000 in VAT.

Mrs Thatcher said last night in her letter to Mr Kinnock that there had been several poor attempts to raise money for Ethiopia. "How, in fairness, could we contribute the VAT raised on the Band Aid record in the fund-raising cause, but refuse it in all other cases?"

HEART MAN IMPROVING

By Our New York Staff
William Schroeder, the world's second artificial heart patient, was showing signs of improvement yesterday after a partially-paralysing stroke that put his long-term recovery prospects in jeopardy.

His right arm froze in mid-air as he was eating dinner on Thursday night. Doctors at the Human Heart Institute, Kentucky, found he had suffered a stroke in the lower left side of his brain.

TUBE SERVICE BACK

By Our Transport Correspondent
London Transport hopes to restore normal service on Monday in the Victoria Line which has been severed at Oxford Circus since last month's fire which caused damage estimated at between £1 million and £2 million.

IRA KILLER MAY BE RETURNED

By TONY ALLEN-MILLS in New York
THE convicted IRA killer Joseph Doherty could still end up in British or Irish government hands despite a New York judge's refusal to grant Britain's extradition request. American legal sources said yesterday.

Doherty, found guilty in 1980 of the 1980 murder of a British Army captain, is waiting in a Manhattan jail for deportation proceedings that are almost certain to end in his expulsion from the United States.

American lawyers said yesterday if Doherty was deported, he would be allowed to choose which country he should be sent to.

Jail escape

But they doubted that any country would be willing to accept him. His first offence was a 1971 conviction for attempted murder, which happened to other IRA terrorists, the lawyers said. Doherty, who claims dual Anglo-Irish nationality, would be returned either to Britain or Ireland.

Mr Thomas Moseley, the Federal attorney dealing with Britain's extradition request, said yesterday an appeal against Judge John Snirz's controversial ruling was still being considered, but he doubted if much would come of it.

Doherty, who escaped from a Belfast jail was found guilty of murdering a British soldier in 1972, and of attempted murder, illegal possession of weapons and of IRA membership.

ULSTER SOLDIER GETS LIFE

By Our Belfast Staff
For the first time since the troubles started in Northern Ireland 15 years ago, a British soldier has been found guilty of murder in the course of his duty and in Belfast yesterday was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Private Geoffrey Thain, from Doncaster, a member of the First Battalion, Light Infantry, shot Thomas Holly, 22, road manager of the pop group Bananarama, during a disturbance in August.

Report—P3

FIRE MAN DIES

Stanley Turner, 39, collapsed and died yesterday as he tried to flee from a fire at his home in Kettering, Essex.

Today's Weather

GENERAL STRATIFICATION: Shallow depression is almost stationary in Irish Sea.
LONDON: S.E. Breeze, E. ANGLIA: Cloudy at first, showers, sunny spells developing. Wind S.W. moderate or fresh. Max. 46F. Min. 38F. 19C.
S. NORTH SEA STRAIT OF DOVER: E. Wind S. to S.W. Force 3 or 4. Sea moderate or rough.
ST. GEORGE'S CA.: W. 6-7, decreasing. S. Rough, becoming moderate.
IRISH SEA: E. to S.E. 4 or 5. Slight to moderate.
ORFORD: Generally drier, overcast night and fog in places.
Weather Maps—P24

Help crew a lifeboat

Join Shoreline today.
You don't need to be able to sail through mountainous seas in a force 9 gale to help crew a lifeboat. Our helpers on the shore are just as vital to our rescue work. By joining Shoreline, our nationwide supporters' organisation, you can do your bit for the lifeboats just as effectively. You'll also be entitled to use certain RNLI insignia and, as a member, you'll be kept in touch with what we're doing via our quarterly magazine, Lifeboat. To join us, just launch this coupon today.

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Royal National Lifeboat Institution D14/23

Judge withholds legal sanction to help to heal wounds of pit strike

NUM OFFICERS LIABLE FOR £1.7m SPENDING

By TERENCE SHAW Legal Correspondent
WORKING miners can sue their union officials to make them personally liable for union funds spent on picketing and hardship payments when the strike is unlawful under union rules, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

In one of the most significant judgments since the miners dispute began, Mr Justice VINELOTT upheld a claim brought by two working Derbyshire miners against their area union officials claiming that payments on the strike in the Derbyshire area were unlawful.

But he refused at this stage of the action to make an order requiring the two officials, Mr GORDON BUTLER, its president, and Mr JOHN BURROUGHS, its treasurer, to repay personally the £1,736,789 spent so far on the strike in the area.

Step to bankruptcy

Mr Justice Vinelott said there was no immediate advantage to the union in ordering the officials to repay the union a sum which was clearly beyond their resources and which could lead to steps being taken to bankrupt them.

Enforcement of a summary judgment for repayment would make it "all the more difficult to heal the wounds that will have to be healed when the dispute is over."

He was giving judgment in a claim brought by Mr ROALAN TAYLOR, from the Shirebrook colliery, and Mr DAVID ROBERTS, from Markham colliery, challenging the legality of the union's spending on picketing, transport and payments to strikers' families during the current dispute.

Argument rejected

Last September they had obtained a ruling from Mr Justice NICOLLS in the High Court that the strike in Derbyshire was unlawful under the local union's rules.

In his judgment yesterday Mr Justice Vinelott rejected an argument put forward by the union that Mr Taylor and Mr Roberts were not entitled, as individuals, to bring an action to stop the misapplication of union funds.

The effect of his ruling will be that working miners in other areas where the strike has been declared unlawful and there are similar local union rules to Derbyshire will be able to sue their union officials for unlawful spending on the strike.

It could also assist the 16 working miners led by Mr COLIN CLARKE, president of the National Working Miners' Committee, who are seeking to make Mr Ayrton SCARGILL, the national union's president, and other members of its executive, personally liable to pay the £200,000 contempt of court fine imposed on the union for breaching court orders.

Local rules

In his reserved judgment yesterday after a four-day hearing, Mr Justice Vinelott ruled that the spending by the Derbyshire area officials on a strike that had been declared unlawful was outside their powers in the local union's rules.

The officials who made the payments were liable to reimburse the union and their misapplication of union funds could not be ratified by a majority of the union's members however large.

In deciding whether or not to order repayment by the officials, Mr Justice Vinelott

Court bans poly cash for famine

By MARGOT NORMAN Education Staff

A HIGH COURT judge yesterday granted the Attorney-General an order forbidding North London Polytechnic students from giving £5,000 to striking miners and £5,000 to famine victims in Ethiopia. But the students went ahead and sent the money anyway.

Steve Brown, a student union spokesman, confirmed that both donations were already on their way to the recipients as Mr Justice Scott reinforced an earlier court order banning the miners' donation and extended it to cover the donation to the Ethiopian famine fund.

The union's defiance of the first order on the £5,000 sent to Seaham miners' support group in Co. Durham could prove a move from Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, to have the student officers concerned jailed for contempt.

Generosity not permitted

Contempt proceedings over the Ethiopian donation are less likely, since the money was sent before the writs arising from yesterday's extended order were delivered to Peter Ross, student president, Peter Redman, vice-president, and Philip Brett, the three named student officers.

At yesterday's hearing the judge said that payment of student union funds for any purpose "other than the advancement of the education, or the fostering of the well-being of the body of members of the students' union as students of the polytechnic" was ultra vires, and therefore illegal.

"The sympathy that people may have for persons in distress in Ethiopia, and miners' families in distress, does not permit at the present state of proceedings, the union to be generous with money which is earmarked for student purposes," said Mr Justice Scott.

His order will remain in force until a full hearing of the case in early February.

On the picket lines

Meanwhile, Brown said "The money has gone up by train to Seaham in cash and cheques signed by student union officers."

"We don't want to go around breaking the law, but we feel our union should be free to spend our money in whatever way it votes to spend it. If the law says no, then that's something we'll have to confront."

Brown, a member of the Socialist Workers' party, added: "Our union should be free to spend our money in whatever way it votes to spend it. If the law says no, then that's something we'll have to confront."

He claimed that the polytechnic had so far sent about 150 students up to Seaham, near Easington Colliery, and that some students were still living in the village and picketing.

Four dropped from court move

By Our Legal Correspondent
FOUR moderate members of miners' union national executive have been dropped from legal proceedings seeking a court ban on the NEC committing further contempt of court.

Mr DAVID OLIVER, counsel for 16 working miners seeking the ban, told Mr Justice Scott in the High Court yesterday that the four moderates had been dropped after evidence filed by the union disclosed splits in the executive.

But they remain defendants with other members of the union's executive in an action brought by the 16 to make executive members personally liable for the £200,000 contempt fine imposed on the union in October for defying court orders.

The four defendants dropped from the action are Mr COLIN BELL, the colliery staff leader, Mr KENNETH TOON, from Derbyshire, Mr JACK JONES, from Leicestershire, and Mr TEO MCKAY, who represents North Wales.

Mr Oliver said the four had already broken with other executive members by retaining their own lawyers. It was clear that some executive resolutions were not unanimous.

The injunction application was adjourned until Wednesday to give other members of the executive time to decide whether they wanted to be separately represented.

MORE COAL IS REACHING POWER PLANTS

By Our Business Correspondent
Coal production and deliveries edged higher this week as the Government welcomed an extra cushion against winter power cuts as a result of the ending of the overtime ban by Nottinghamshire miners.

Deliveries are running at around a million tonnes a week with three-quarters of the total going to power stations. The supply to power plants is less than half the normal level at this time of year.



Counting house—Mrs Glenys Kinnock, the Labour leader's wife, and Mrs Jeanette Dunn, whose husband, Mr Jack Dunn, is the former general secretary of the Kent NUM, pleasantly engaged in Southwark yesterday sorting through the latest donations which had arrived in aid of the striking miners and their families.

£263,000 CHEER FOR MINERS

By BRENDA PARRY

THE miners' families Christmas appeal launched two weeks ago by Mr Kinnock, the Labour leader, has already raised £263,400, his wife Glenys said yesterday.

But she added there was still a huge need for support in the mining communities, so that parents did not have to tell their small children: "Father Christmas will not be coming this year."

The biggest cheque so far is the well-publicised £100,000 from John Paul Getty. Other large sums have come from Colin Welland, Ken Follet, Trafalgar Watch and the West Midlands Labour party.

The money is being banked daily, and then being distributed from Sheffield in the hope that every miner's family will be able to celebrate Christmas in his own home with a turkey, a Christmas pudding and at least one present for each child.

It is hoped that 100,000 families will benefit from the appeal.

Sharing the Press conference with Mrs Kinnock was Mrs Janet Dunn, wife of Kent NUM general secretary, Jack Dunn, who said that she and her husband live in a house owned by the NUM and had been ordered to pay their rent to the sequestrators.

Moral support

In West Sussex a group is trying to bolster moral support for working miners.

A housewife leader of the group, who like all the members wishes to remain anonymous, said that working miners were feeling increasingly isolated with all the publicity heavily loaded in favour of the strikers.

The Harwards Heath based group has adopted the working miners at Kiveton Colliery, South Yorkshire, extending the band of friendship where they feel it is greatly needed.

"We are a non-political, non-sectarian group who simply want working miners to know that they have friends and supporters in the South of England," said the woman.

She added that supporters of the working miners were angry that so much aid was being given to the strikers who had the power to bring their misery to an end by returning to work.

STEEL OUTPUT HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR

By Our Business Correspondent
Steel output slipped last month but is still showing growth over last year's levels despite the miners' attempts to disrupt production.

Average output was 318,000 tonnes a week at British Steel and independent company works compared to 318,300 tonnes in October, but was three per cent. higher than November last year.

Detailed figures published yesterday show how the main producing areas have with one exception been able to raise output with the help of regular ore and coal lorry convoys introduced to beat the effects of some railmen and miners' strikes.

The only main centre where output has fallen is Yorkshire and Humberside.

AID FOR SLIMMERS

By Our Health Services Correspondent

A £75,000 grant has been made to help form an advisory service for people suffering from anorexia nervosa, the slimmers' disease, Lord Glenarthur, Parliamentary Secretary at the Health Department has announced.

YORKSHIRE: the contrary county

SCARGILL, Boycott, Harvey Smith, Richard III... all Yorkshiremen and all awkward types. What makes them—and their county—so contrary?

There are a number of theories. Some say it is the Viking spirit, still alive and kicking; others that it is rampant insularity; yet others that it is simply bloody-mindedness.

Graham Turner has been up north to find out what makes Yorkshire tick. His lively report on a county where they give now for your comfort appears in THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH tomorrow.

483 BACK TO WORK THIS WEEK

By Our Industrial Staff

ANOTHER 40 miners abandoned the strike and returned to work yesterday to take the total going back during the week to 483.

The Coal Board was encouraged that there has still been a steady drift back to take the total for the past fortnight to more than 1,000.

The board hopes there will be an accelerated return after Christmas because of strikers' financial hardship.

3,000 in Yorkshire

This likelihood of a faster drift back was increased by the collapse of yesterday's peace initiative by the TUC which met Mr Walker, Energy Minister.

It is likely that at least some strikers put off their return to work on the strength of it, in the hope that they would not have to make the decision to cross picket lines.

The most encouraging back-to-work figures yesterday came in Yorkshire where the total at work in the four Coal Board areas in the county exceeded 3,000 for the first time since the strike began 40 weeks ago.

Coal Board regions gave the following figures yesterday for its working and on strike, and for the number of miners working and returning to work for the first time. These figures do not take account of "new starters" at coal products plants, or returning NUM clerical staff.

LEADER OF KENT MINERS FINED

Malcolm Pitt, the Kent miners' president, has been convicted of obstructing a police officer by picket line in the county. Pitt, of Edge End Road, Broadstairs, Kent, was fined £100 by Sandwich magistrates and ordered to pay £25 costs for the offence at Tilmanstone Colliery, near Deal, in Kent.

He was cleared of using threatening behaviour. Police were ordered to pay £500 costs by the magistrates when the prosecution offered no evidence against 18 men accused of persistently following a working miner. All charges were dismissed.

It's not cricket for independent schools

By JOHN IZBICKI Education Correspondent

PUPILS attending independent schools in Labour-dominated Nottinghamshire, will no longer be able to play football or cricket on county-maintained fields or learn to swim in its pools.

The pupils will also be barred from playing in the fine county orchestra or its concert band.

Music sessions run by the local authority on Saturday mornings as well as its drama workshops will also be closed to boys and girls at fee-paying schools.

Savings to ratepayers will be £1,880 a year.

Last night Councillor Fred Riddell, chairman of Nottinghamshire's education committee, said: "We felt that the independent sector should live up to its name and be independent. Independent schools need us; we don't need them."

"It is unfair of parents to buy a private education and then skim the milk from both the private and the State sectors."

Councillor Riddell admitted that the miners' strike had also affected the decision. "We have seen the harsh effects of that strike and witnessed the disintegration of a once-proud community," he said.

"A dividing force"

"Education should be a unifying force; instead, it is a dividing force in society. Why should those who are being brought an education privately create still further divisions?"

Mr Robert Roberts, head of Workshop College, one of the county's major independent schools, said he was saddened by the decision even though none of his 300 boys and 70 girls were affected. On the contrary, Workshop opened up its many own facilities to the community and mostly without charging anyone a penny.

Moderates defeat benefits strikers

By CHARLES LAURENCE

MODERATES outvoted supporters of the Militant Tendency yesterday to swing the Civil and Public Services Association against continuing the strike at the Government computer centres in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The vote at a national executive meeting in London means that Mr Alistair Graham, the moderate general secretary, may now recommend a return to work at a meeting of the 330 striking civil servants on Monday.

The seven-month strike, led by Militants in the Newcastle branch of the union, has disrupted pension and child benefit payments.

It is estimated to have cost the Department of Health and Social Security about £100 million with 3,500 temporary civil servants hired to do manually the work normally done on computer.

Minor changes

At yesterday's meeting the once-dominant Militant Tendency faction of the executive lost an attempt to spread the strike to all 73 Government computer centres.

Mr Graham's first attempt to put through a resolution calling for an end to the strike failed when the emerging Broad Left faction voted with the Militants, defeating him by 14 votes to 12.

The second attempt followed the failure of the left to spread the strike and this time the moderates won by 16 to 8 after some minor changes to the wording.

Mrs Kate Losinka, union president and leader of the moderate faction, said: "There were some strange voting patterns as the so-called Broad Left changed its vote, but I am greatly relieved that we have finally got an end to this strike in sight."

"I have long been more concerned with the welfare of our members on strike than with the political games being played on the executive."

She predicted that the 330 strikers would vote for a return to work now that the executive had laid to rest the promise of supportive strikers at other computer centres.

Four points

Mr Graham is empowered to put four points to Monday's meeting. They are:

That the executive believes that escalation is not "a viable option."

That the strike should be ended as soon as possible.

That the executive will continue to finance the dispute while an "acceptable" return to work deal is concluded.

That the executive would continue to pay strike pay at 85 per cent. of net pay, but would withdraw hardship funds.

Mrs Losinka said the union hoped to have the civil servants back at their computers by Jan 9.

The dispute is over a management executive which they would save £700,000 a year. The civil servants would lose about £14 a week under the new system.

Disruption has been mainly to the issuing of new pension and benefit books. The Post Office has been paying pensions on the stubs of dead books, but a number of pensioners living abroad have been left without funds.

NHS CLERKS IN DEMAND FOR TWO-FOLD RISE

A pay rise of 28 a week plus at least seven per cent. is being demanded by clerks and administrative officers in the National Health Service, the National and Local Government Officers' Association announced yesterday.

The claim is for a pay increase due in April and the exact size of the percentage increase demanded will be decided in the New Year.

Miss Ada Maddocks, the union's NHS officer, said that two-thirds of the 80,000 staff covered by the claim earned less than £104 a week, the TUC target for the minimum wage.

When his ship was torpedoed... so was his future peace of mind

Leading Seaman R...th... served right through the war. He was torpedoed in the Atlantic and suffered from exposure. He served in Landing craft, and his home received a direct hit from a bomb while he was there on leave.

In 1945 his mind could take no more, and he spent the next 25 years in and out of mental hospitals. He now lives with us.

Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen still risk mental breakdown in serving their country. However brave they may be, the strains are sometimes unbearable.

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LIFE JAIL FOR 'MURDER ON DUTY' SOLDIER

By KENNETH CLARKE in Belfast

FOR the first time since the Army was sent to Northern Ireland 15 years ago, a British soldier was found guilty yesterday of murder during the course of his duty.

Pte Ian Richard Thain, 19, from Doncaster of the First Bn Light Infantry Regt, was jailed for life at Belfast Crown Court for murdering THOMAS REILLY, 22, road manager of the all woman pop group Bananarama.

Thain, who denied murder, had been in the Regular Army less than a year when he shot Reilly through the heart as he chased him Aug. 9 last year—the anniversary of the introduction of internment in Ulster.

Yesterday he was helped down the dock after being sentenced by Mr Justice Higgins.

Colleagues in plain clothes looked shocked, but one of Mr Reilly's two brothers, Michael, said: "It is good to see people like that getting justice. They usually walk away."

Drinking heavily

In his defence, Thain said he called on Mr Reilly to stop three times, but fired a single shot when Mr Reilly half-turned and appeared to be going for a gun in the waistband of his trousers.

Thain also called evidence that Mr Reilly, before being shot, had punched a soldier, and tried to steal a riot gun.

The judge accepted that Mr Reilly had been involved in a disturbance and had also been drinking heavily.

But he said he had found Thain out of control in the witness box when it suited him, and he rejected the defence submission that Thain had fired only in the belief that he was protecting both his own life and those of soldier colleagues.

Lack of sleep

Mr Justice Higgins said he had also considered evidence from a psychologist that Thain had been brooding about the death of a colleague who had been blown up two months previously, and that there were doubts about his stability.

In addition, he had taken into account his youth, inexperience and lack of sleep at the time.

Having regard to all the evidence, simply to not accept the accused's testimony that he believed he was about to be shot at, and reacted to that danger by shooting in self-defence.

The judge said he was satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that—

Between firing the gun and getting to within a short distance of Mr Reilly, Thain was

not suffering from any emotional shock or reaction; and Thain's failure in that period of time to take precautions, to give warnings, to search for the gun or to mention its presence, or to say why he had fired his rifle could only be explained by the absence of any belief on his part that Mr Reilly was going to draw a gun and shoot him.

The judge said that the first time that Thain claimed that the shooting was in self-defence was when he made a statement at Tidworth about a year after the shooting.

He said that since the shooting Thain had been in military custody, first for four months at Aldergrove in Northern Ireland, and then at Tidworth. During that time, he was free from the dangers and pressures associated with patrol duties in West Belfast.

But Thain admitted that he had told no one in that period. I find it unbelievable that the accused person, not keen and anxious during that time to explain his position and justify to someone what he had done, should now, the accused's defence astounds me.

Appeal likely

The judge said that another soldier, Pte Speak, was not far behind Thain when the shot was fired, and he would have expected Thain, if he honestly believed Mr Reilly to have been armed, to have talked to Pte Speak about it.

An Army spokesman refused to comment on the verdict but it is understood that there will be an appeal.

Thain joined the Army in September 1982 and was posted to Northern Ireland on May 1 the following year, when he was only 18. He was stationed in West Belfast, for years in areas in which the IRA has operated.

Many residents there are hostile to soldiers, and when on patrol troops are frequently abused and have missiles thrown at them.

Soon after Thain's arrival in West Belfast a booby-trapped lamp-post exploded and killed his mate, Pte Geoffrey Cortis, also from Doncaster, and serving in the same company.

Thain arrived at the scene of the blast with other soldiers, shortly afterwards, and saw his friend's remains. He told colleagues it was something that had embittered him deeply.

Ex-sheriff's suicide over liver cancer

By JOHN SHAW

MR JAMES PHILLIPS, a former High Sheriff of Suffolk, shot himself after being told he might have cancer, a Newmarket inquest was told yesterday.

"Against that background he determined to end his life in as discreet and private a fashion as the circumstances would permit," said Mr MICHAEL HALL, deputy coroner for West Suffolk, who recorded a verdict of suicide.

Mr Phillips, 78, of Dalham Hall, Dalham, near Newmarket, was a gentleman farmer, keenly interested in racing, and a member of the Jockey Club. He was found dead in his grounds by a member of the staff on Sept. 22. He was High Sheriff in 1955-56.

Mrs ELIZABETH PHILLIPS said her husband had good health until shortly before his death when he developed jaundice. He went to a local doctor and then to hospital for a scan. On the morning of his death he had looked "very ill," she said.

Worked as usual

But he did office work as usual and then went on a tour of the farms taking his gun with him in a Range Rover. She said there was nothing abnormal in that.

Dr FRANK HARRIS, consultant pathologist, said Mr Phillips was suffering from deep jaundice and a post-mortem examination showed that he had cancer in a liver duct which would have made him slowly more and more jaundiced. Death was due to a gunshot wound in the chest.



Helen Charlotte Hough who was jailed for nine months at the Old Bailey yesterday for helping a 83-year-old friend to take her own life.

'Spectator' columnist goes to jail after losing drug case appeal

THE "High Life" columnist for the SPECTATOR, PETER TAKI THEODORACPOULOS began a four-month jail sentence yesterday for possessing cocaine after Judge ALAN TRAPNELL rejected his appeal against the sentence.

Theodoracopoulos was "professionally destroyed" by the sentence, his counsel, Mr JOHN MATHEW, Q.C., said at Southwark Crown Court.

Mr Mathew said that Theodoracopoulos had been sacked by the New York magazine VANITY FAIR because of the case.

The editor of the SPECTATOR, Mr CHARLES MOORE said after yesterday's appeal that the job would remain open to him.

Karate captain

Theodoracopoulos, 48, a Greek millionaire, is married to an Austrian princess, and they have two sons, aged nine and four.

He lives in New York but has a flat in Egerton Gardens, Chelsea. He played tennis for the Greek Davis Cup team, was an Olympic skier, and is the present captain of the Greek karate team. As a journalist, he writes under the name of Taki. He was arrested by customs

officers at Heathrow in August after an envelope was spotted protruding from his pocket as he walked through the green channel. It was found to contain 24.1 grammes of cocaine worth £2,410, which he was planning to use for himself during a three-month stay in Europe.

'Deep humiliation'

He pleaded guilty and was jailed for four months by Uxbridge magistrates the following day but released on bail pending an appeal against sentence.

"He feels the humiliation very deeply," Mr Mathew told the court yesterday. "He and his family have been attacked in the Greek Press. He fears for the effect upon his sons, and the way they may be treated."

"I do not try to minimise the dangers to those who use a Class A drug nor excuse it because it is a custom of the affluent, influential and intellectual."

"But there is a vast difference between those who have it for their own use and those who are dealers or providers. The users are more to be pitied. It

Peter "Taki" Theodoracopoulos — "professionally destroyed."

seems pointless to punish them excessively."

Mr Mathew said that Theodoracopoulos became a user because of the pressure of his work, as he found cocaine acted as an antidote to his drinking, which had become quite heavy.

Judge Trapnell said: "Bringing cocaine into this country is a serious matter and we feel bound to dislodge the appeal."

Theodoracopoulos was also ordered to pay £200 costs.

VICE GIRL FREED FOR HONEYMOON

Judy Jones, 36, who admitted she was out soliciting as a prostitute only hours before her wedding, was back on honeymoon yesterday after magistrates in Bristol gave her a "last chance" 12-month conditional discharge.

She was arrested last Thursday in the St Pauls area of Bristol and freed on bail the next day when magistrates heard she was to be married that afternoon.

Murdered executive's wife discharged

MRS YIANDULLA ROBERTSON, 37, the Greek-born wife of Mr Michael Robertson, the murdered IBM executive, was discharged yesterday by magistrates at Havant, Hampshire, where she had been accused of soliciting the killing.

POLICE WIN RENTS CASE RULING

THE Labour-controlled West Midlands police authority acted unlawfully in failing to review the rent allowance for its police officers, Mr Justice SKINNER ruled in the High Court yesterday.

The authority was ordered to review, "as soon as practicable," the rent allowance which is given to officers not living in free police housing.

That review should not be later than Feb. 20, 1985, the date of the next meeting of the police authority, the judge said.

The result was welcomed as a victory by the West Midlands Police Federation, who had brought the action through its secretary, Pe David Morgan, from Birmingham.

Since 1969, the West Midlands had reviewed the rents every two years, but had not done so since April 1982.

Between then and February this year, the rent for the "specimen house"—used to fix the maximum allowance—had increased by just over 15 per cent, said the judge. In those circumstances the authority had a "plain duty" to review the rent allowances.

The police authority was ordered to pay the costs of the action.

NO ESCAPE PLOT BY NILSEN

Prison authorities were investigating yesterday how a hacksaw blade came to be hidden near the cell of Denis Nilsen, the mass murderer, at Wakefield Prison, Yorkshire, although a spokesman for the Home Office Prisons Department said: "We believe there was no genuine escape plot, and therefore no escape plot was followed."

Nilsen, 33, a former civil servant, was jailed for life last year for killing and dismembering 15 homeless youths. Parts of his bodies were later discovered in drains and under floorboards of two houses in North London.

Miss XANDY SMITH-HUGHES, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said it was proposed "at this stage" to offer no evidence against her.

Mrs Robertson, 37, of Selters Lane, Hayling Island, had been accused of soliciting Timothy John Smith to murder her husband.

Miss Smith-Hughes said of the D.P.P. decision: "It has been made clear to the defence this is not to be taken as a final decision in her case and her position will be reviewed after Smith has been dealt with at the Crown Court for the murder itself. At this stage my application is to offer no evidence."

Unlawful disclosure

Mrs. Robertson was discharged by the court, which then heard criticism of advance Press publicity of her case.

Mr Douglas Hogg, chairman of the bench, said the D.P.P. would be asked to investigate the matter "to see whether or not there has been any unlawful disclosure of evidence or other matters in this case."

Newspaper reports had disclosed that the charge against Mrs Robertson would be dropped. Mr KERRY BARKER, the court clerk, said he was "incensed" at the suggestion in a local evening paper that the source of information was him.

Timothy Smith, 41, the Robertson's family gardener, of the Seafrost, Hayling Island, was yesterday sent for trial at Winchester Crown Court accused of the murder of Mr Robertson, who was attacked outside his luxury home on Hayling Island last October.

Smith appeared in the dock with David SNAPE, 37, of East Stoke Avenue, Hayling Island, who was accused of perverting the course of justice and was also sent for trial on bail, to Winchester Crown Court.

BLOW FOR SHERIFF

The Sheriff of Norwich's gold chain of office, worth £9,000 and presented to the city in 1733, was stolen from the Lord Mayor's car in Unthank Road, Norwich. The Lord Mayor, Mr Stan Petersen, was to have met the Sheriff later.



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MYSTERY-MAN GORBACHEV IN THE LIMELIGHT

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

MR MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, the Kremlin heir-apparent, arrives in Britain today for a week's visit of international as well as bilateral importance.

The trip is billed as a Parliamentary exchange but will carry weighty East-West and State-to-State overtones in meetings between Mr Gorbachev and Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, and other Ministers.

Mr Gorbachev arrives on the eve of fresh disarmament talks between the Soviet Union and the United States in Geneva early next month.

Mr George Shultz, Secretary of State, was in London this week for preparatory discussions with Sir Geoffrey about new arms negotiations.

Moscow has said it is ready for "radical solutions" to the arms race. The attention of the United States and Britain's other Nato allies will be closely fixed on Mr Gorbachev's London talks for any sign of what Russia's approach to Geneva might be.

There will also be great curiosity to see Mr Gorbachev, 53, out of his natural habitat and away from the Kremlin camouflage which has blurred perception of who and what he really is.

That he is the youngest member of the ruling Politburo and, as a law graduate, his best educated, has been taken by some analysts to mean he could be a "liberal" waiting for his chance to see Russia on a path of modern reform.

He can be quoted in favour of greater incentives to spur farm and factory output, a wider use of free-market levers, an all-out drive for the latest technology and an intensive overhaul of economic management.

Chance to impress

But Mr Gorbachev has yet to spell out exactly what alternatives he would prefer and exactly how "reformist" he would like to be.

The visit is an important opportunity for Mr Gorbachev to enlarge his personal prestige and to impress Russians back home as much as Governments and people in the West.

In bilateral terms the visit seems to be the most important since 1967 when Mr Kosygin, then Prime Minister, toured Britain.

It gives expression to the remarkable improvement in relations between the two countries since the invasion of Afghanistan five years ago this month.

Mr Gorbachev's visit paves the way for the planned visit next year by Mr Andrei Gromiko, Foreign Minister, in return for the Foreign Secretary's visit to Moscow last July.

A full-scale trip to Moscow by Mrs Thatcher is clearly in prospect, possibly within a year.

Mrs Thatcher, when in Moscow for President Andropov's funeral, spoke of a "new era" in relations between the two countries.

Trade has benefited parties



Mr Mikhail Gorbachev - youngest and best educated member of the Politburo.

larity, up 25 per cent in the first half of this year and moving to a total annual turnover of around £2 billion.

This still leaves Russia 26th on the league table of Britain's trading partners. Both sides sound optimistic about prospects for expansion.

The engineering groups John Brown and the Davy Corporation have been asked to bid for turnkey chemical plants, contracts, each worth £500 million, and there is an increasing flow of British company heads visiting Moscow.

A Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade in Mr Gorbachev's delegation and trade discussions will form an important part of the visit. So will factory visits, including one to the John Brown headquarters in Scotland.

Also in his delegation will be Mr Leonid Zamyatin, head of the party's International Information Department and chief Kremlin spokesman.

Mr Gorbachev was born to peasants in the north Caucasus region of Stavropol when Stalin's purges were just beginning. He attended Moscow University law faculty in the early 1950s during the immediate post-Stalin succession.

Politburo rival

His work as a young Communist organiser at university led him back to the party apparatus in Stavropol where he became Party Chief before moving to Moscow in 1978 as Party Secretary in charge of agriculture.

His promotion became even more rapid under President Andropov who gave him wider responsibilities for industry.

But the party evidently judged Mr Gorbachev too young to take the succession from Mr Chernenko and his "Old Guard" supporters when Mr Andropov died.

He has since been rivalled by the other leading "young hopeful" in the Politburo, Mr Gromiko, 61, but is now clearly Number Two, with responsibility for ideology in addition to his other duties.

Reservations of Europeans on arms talks

By DAVID ADAMSON
Diplomatic Correspondent
in Brussels

FOREIGN MINISTERS of Nato wished Mr Shultz, American Secretary of State, hon voyage yesterday to next month's Geneva arms talks with the Soviet Union, but maintained reservations about the consultations the Americans have promised.

The Geneva talks, embracing Euro-missiles, long-range strategic missiles, and futuristic Star Wars weapons, will clearly be complex, and some of the Europeans fear that their own chief concern - the medium-range Euro-missiles - will lose its separate identity.

These anxieties are largely in countries where deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles is still a white-hot political issue - West Germany, Holland, and Belgium. One problem is that the Soviet criterion for strategic missile is that they can reach Soviet soil. That puts cruise and Pershing II in the same category as inter-continental missiles, which until talks broke down in Geneva last year dealt with in the separate START talks.

'No reason to change'

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, broiled yesterday at suggestions that a new mechanism for consultation between the United States and its allies might be needed.

He believed that what worked satisfactorily during the American-Soviet talks in Geneva on Euro-missiles was good enough.

The existing mechanism is the Consultative Group, of which the chairman is an American, and Mr Shultz said he saw no reason to change "established ways of consulting."

Mr Shultz's general approach to the Geneva negotiations has been endorsed by the Allies, but he is keeping close his tactical cards for his agenda-setting talks with Mr Gromyko.

The Soviet Union, which broke off the Euro-missile and the START talks, now appears to want a forum combining them.

Above that important procedural question looms the larger one of how far the Americans will permit the Soviet Union's chief preoccupation - the American venture into "Star Wars" technology - to dominate.

Tests 'presumably on'

Mr Shultz was asked if the United States would go ahead with tests of an advanced satellite weapon in March. The Russians have called for a moratorium on all such tests.

All Mr Shultz would say was that "presumably" the tests would go ahead.

The Europeans will hope for a considerably less than hard-line approach on Star Wars. Any moves towards destroying offensive missiles in space will almost certainly lead to a breach of SALT II, the American-Soviet anti-missile treaties, which the Europeans want to be preserved.

The Russians, however, may already have breached it with a new radar establishment at Krasnoyarsk in the central Soviet Union. Its purpose is believed to be that of spotting missiles fired from submarines.

SOVIET TIRADE Stockholm conference

OUR STOCKHOLM CORRESPONDENT reports: The Stockholm Security Conference ended its first day of deliberations yesterday with an unexpected tirade against Nato in general and West Germany in particular.

Although Nato representatives expressed satisfaction with the last session, during which the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact agreed a working schedule, the Soviet chief delegate, Mr Oleg Grinevsky, complained that forces in West Germany were trying to regain territory lost in the 1939-45 war.

This was "one of the most dangerous phenomena of European life, disrupting existing frontiers, their socio-political systems and other territorial and political realities that had taken shape since the war."

Herr Klaus Citron, of West Germany, strongly denied the Soviet accusation, saying that it had political purposes. "The discussions are due to resume on Jan. 28."

JOURNALIST HELD IN S.W. AFRICA

A South-West African journalist, Gwen Lister, 31, was arrested yesterday amid moves to suppress reports that she mistakenly received inside three envelopes a letter from police telling the local postmaster to intercept her mail for six months in the interests of state security.

Col. Gert Badenhorst, head of the security police in the South-West African (Namibian) capital of Windhoek, confirmed the arrest made under the Official Secrets Act and the Post Office Act, and said he expected a formal charge to be made within two days.

Asked if he thought the letter was genuine or a forgery, Col. Badenhorst said he had no comment. Police questioned local journalists who had copies of the letter. U.P.I.

BORDER ESCAPE

By Our Munich Correspondent
A 20-year-old East German Army corporal, armed and in uniform, fled unharmed across the heavily-mined border to West Germany, police in Hannover reported yesterday.



Mr William Schroeder, the second man to receive an artificial heart, receiving his cheque for social security after he had complained to President Reagan of difficulty in getting payment. The cheque was flown out to the heart hospital in Louisville, Kentucky, soon after Mr Schroeder's conversation with the President, who had telephoned to congratulate him on his recovery.

Election in Belize no comfort for Guatemala

By DAVID SHEARS in Stann Creek, Belize

IN the small seaside town of Stann Creek with its wooden shanties and Chinese restaurants I watched at several polling stations yesterday as Belize, formerly British Honduras, held its first general election since becoming independent three years ago.

As to the Grenada election this month, each voter was required to dip a finger in semi-indelible red ink to show he had voted.

But the precaution seemed unnecessary. A polling clerk, Mr Richard Merello, assured me: "We check identity cards against the register, and in any case we know just about everybody."

At mid-morning all was quiet and orderly, but police stood guard at every polling station and the Belize Defence Force had stationed units around the country in case of trouble.

The election result in what was thought to be a close race was not expected until early today. At stake was the future of Mr George Price, the acting Prime Minister, who has dominated Belizean politics for three decades.

Rigging discounted

His People's United party faced a strong challenge from the United Democratic party led by Mr Manuel Esquivel, a physics teacher.

More than 60,000 voters out of the total Belizean population of about 150,000 were expected to go to the 113 polling stations. The two main parties put up 28 candidates apiece.

The small Christian Democratic party nominated two, and there were three Independents. Ten additional parliamentary constituencies were created for the election, bringing the total to 28.

Whatever the outcome, Belizeans will resist the predatory claims of neighbouring Guatemala to their territory.

This threat from Guatemala reached its zenith in the late 1970s when an invasion scare led Britain to reinforce her garrison and bring in Harrier jump-jet fighters.

The 1,800-strong British garrison remains. Its Harriers patrol the jungle border. Observation posts are manned.

Israel keeps Lebanon villages under siege

By MAIER ASHER in Jerusalem

SEVEN Shi'ite Moslem villages in Southern Lebanon were under siege by Israeli forces yesterday as the military authorities told Lebanese leaders that Israel would allow no revival of "Khomeini-inspired terrorism" near its border.

The warning was broadcast amidst heavy tension following village searches and arrests carried out on Thursday.

Military sources confirmed that three Lebanese residents were shot and killed during the searches. They were an armed terrorist and a young woman and another woman earlier killed by villagers, "for family reasons."

Four men and three women had been wounded and 30 people arrested on suspicion of terrorism. The Israeli spokesman added that automatic rifles, ammunition, communications equipment and propaganda material had been found.

But there was criticism in Israel of the action coinciding with talks on the pull-back of Israeli forces from Southern Lebanon and the visit of Mr Richard Murphy, American Assistant Secretary of State, who is trying to help withdrawal through talks with Lebanon and Syria.

BUDGET RETHINK FOR EEC

By ALAN OSBORN
Common Market
Correspondent in Brussels

THE Common Market Commission yesterday abandoned any attempt to solve the EEC's budget crisis and left it to the 10 member Governments to come up with new spending proposals for 1985.

This followed an overwhelming vote by the European Parliament on Thursday to reject the 1985 budget on the grounds that it provided for only 10 months' spending.

The EEC Finance Ministers had approved spending of some £15.5 billion in 1985, which fell far short of the £17 billion wanted by Parliament.

EEC Governments are prepared to increase spending by £800 million but only on condition that extra income for the Community is agreed next year. This is not guaranteed. Germany is insisting it will not provide extra income for the EEC until Spain and Portugal become members, and this will certainly not be before the beginning of 1986.

Serious crisis

Commission officials said yesterday that until new spending plans could be agreed, the Common Market would be restricted to spending no more than one-twelfth of the 1984 budget each month.

This might not affect operations much in the early months of the year but would produce a serious financial crisis in the spring when seasonal payments in farmers start picking up.

The vote to reject the budget by the European Parliament was 518 to five, with 16 abstentions. Mr Richard Cotteill, the Conservative Member for Bristol, who voted to accept, said the Parliament was "fighting the wrong battle, for the wrong reasons, on the wrong ground."

Mr Cotteill said: "Like Napoleon on the way back from Moscow, the Council will pick up all group by group as the winter deepens."

Nine other Tory members abstained. They were Mr Christopher Jacky (Kent East), Mrs Sheila Faith (Cumbria and Lancashire North), Mr Bryan Cassidy (Dorset East and Hampshire West), Mr Andrew Pearce (Cheshire West), Sir James Scott-Hopkins (Hereford and Worcester), Dame Shelagh Roberts (London South West), Mr Madron Seliman (Sussex West), Mr Amede Turner (Suffolk) and Mr John Taylor (Northern Ireland).

DUMAS BOUND FOR MOSCOW

By Our Staff Correspondent
in Paris

M. Roland Dumas, France's new Foreign Minister, will visit Moscow early next year, to arrange a visit to Paris by President Chernenko, the Russian leader, Le Monde reported yesterday.

The newspaper said the journey had been confirmed "unofficially" both by the Quai d'Orsay and Elisee Palace.

'Stay put' appeal is ignored in Bhopal as citizens flee

By BALRAM TANDON in New Delhi

ALL official pleas for the people of Bhopal to stay put when the central Indian city's killer gas plant restarts operations tomorrow appeared to have failed yesterday. The exodus continued.

To help those fleeing the local administration laid out 400 buses in addition to the state services. Special trains also ran.

Such is the fear of another leak from the Union Carbide pesticide plant that every patient who could get out of bed and walk was doing so and leaving, said doctors at the city's Hamidia hospital.

So far the disaster at the American-owned plant has caused well over 2,300 deaths and hundreds of thousands of others have been seriously affected. For day the compound of the over-crowded Hamidia hospital was occupied by patients but yesterday the fear of any repercussions on Sunday left it empty.

The area around the plant in Bhopal was like a chess town. The people were running away even though they were still suffering from respiratory problems, said one doctor. They did not want to go in the camps provided as "they have no faith in the Government."

To add to its problems the local administration said it had in draft in thousands of police to the city to "prevent lawlessness and looting."

Political fallout

And with a general election due over Christmas leaders of the ruling Congress party yesterday expressed concern over the political fallout from the gas disaster.

Madhya Pradesh states has been a stronghold of the Opposition Right-wing Bharatiya Janata party since Nehru's death in 1964 and the Congress group was struggling even when elections were announced.

Now it faces the gas disaster plus the political and administrative fumbling which has followed both at state as well as the local level.

Journalists who earlier said that Madhya Pradesh, like most of Northern India, was gripped by an "Indira Gandhi wave" as far the elections were concerned, no way that is over.

At first Congress campaigners claimed the plant was sanctioned by the Janata party government. This was abandoned when newspapers pointed out that the factory was approved and built during Congress regimes.

Plans rejected

Premier Jayawardene of Sri Lanka yesterday presented a plan to devolve some powers to the regime in an attempt to pacify Tamil demands for autonomy. But the proposals were rejected by Tamil leaders as inadequate.

Foreign Office denies 'forgetting' 4 in Libya

By JAMES MACMANUS Diplomatic Staff

THE Foreign Office denied yesterday it had neglected four British detainees in Libya.

An accusation of neglect was made mainly by the wife of one of the prisoners, Mrs Carol Russell, 42, whose husband Alan, 49, a teacher, appeared in a Tripoli court on Thursday on charges arising from a telephone call by a BBC World Service reporter.

"Terrible to watch"

From her Ipswich home Mrs Russell a mother of four, said: "My husband and the other prisoners clearly feel abandoned by their Government. It was terrible to watch Alan on television and hear him say he had listened to the BBC for months, waiting to hear of support or protest from home."

We have asked the Foreign Office to send out a special envoy to negotiate on their behalf, but the answer is always that what has been done for the hostages is negligible."

Mrs Russell also said the Foreign Office did not help her with the £600 cost of a visit to the Libya in September when she was briefly allowed to see her husband, held since May. Last night the Foreign Office, expressing sympathy with Mrs Russell and the families of

390 DEAD IN REPRISALS, SAY TAMILS

By DAVID GRAVES
in Colombo

AT LEAST 390 innocent Tamil civilians have been killed in reprisal attacks by troops since the start of the recent rebel offensive, the Tamil United Liberation Front claimed last night.

Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, Secretary-General of the front, speaking at his heavily-guarded hotel in the Sri Lankan capital, said: "The Government rarely disputes the figures when I present them."

Mr Amirthalingam, in Colombo for the latest session of all-party talks which began yesterday, aimed at reaching a political solution, said the killings began after an attack on the Dollar and Kent prison resettlement farms by Tamil Separatist guerrillas two weeks ago.

He claimed 107 Tamil civilians had been killed near the north-western ports of Mannar on Dec. 4, and 104 murdered near Javanua, and also listed other killings.

The Government has consistently denied Army reprisals, official sources have told foreign journalists that 102 people were killed near Mannar on Dec. 4.

'Passengers shot'

The allegations by Mr Amirthalingam, formerly Leader of the Opposition in the Sri Lankan Parliament, followed claims by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, of indiscriminate killings of Tamil civilians which were angrily rebuffed in Colombo.

The Mannar District Citizens Committee, made up of professional Tamils including the Roman Catholic Bishop, has sent a report to President Jayawardene outlining mass killings on Dec. 4, after the ambush of an Army convoy.

Plans rejected

Premier Jayawardene of Sri Lanka yesterday presented a plan to devolve some powers to the regime in an attempt to pacify Tamil demands for autonomy. But the proposals were rejected by Tamil leaders as inadequate.

other detainees, said the Government had used every available channel to make it clear to Libya that the four detainees must be released before any moves towards normal relations.

The Foreign Office spokesman added: "Far from ignoring the detainees, our two diplomats working in our interest section in the Italian Embassy in Tripoli have repeatedly made the point."

But he also said no concessions would be made to Col. Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to obtain the release of the prisoners. That would set a precedent adverse to all Britons abroad.

Previously the Foreign Office believes the four Britons in Tripoli are, in effect, hostages held against the release of three Libyans held in British jails on charges of causing explosions.

The Foreign Office has also been criticised for not underwriting the cost of legal representation for another detainee, Mr Malcolm Anderson, accused of carrying letters defamatory to the Libyan Government.

A Foreign Office spokesman said there was no request from Mr Anderson's family. The options open to him had been to hire a Libyan lawyer or accept a free court-appointed lawyer, and the family had felt it would be best to accept the court lawyer.

Go-between Thatcher in round-world trip

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

THE Prime Minister embarks tomorrow on a round of high-level diplomacy with Soviet, Chinese and American leaders which not only enables her to kill several birds with one stone but also gives her a role as a go-between on crucial world issues.

Mrs Thatcher holds talks at Chequers tomorrow with Mr Gorbachev, unofficial deputy to President Chernenko, before embarking on a round-the-world trip in just six days which will include meetings with the Chinese Communist leadership in Peking and with President Reagan at Camp David.

While East-West relations and disarmament form the nearest thing to a common thread, the state of the world trade will also figure strongly.

The central event in this week of high-speed diplomacy is the signature in Peking on Wednesday of the Anglo-Chinese agreement on the return of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty when treaties with Britain expire in 1997.

Shortly after Mrs Thatcher's visit to Peking was arranged it was announced that Mr Gorbachev would be coming to Britain this weekend at the head of a Soviet delegation invited by the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Successful diplomacy

As plans for the Prime Minister's travels took shape, her suggestion that she should make it a round-the-world trip and call in on Mr Reagan on her way home was warmly accepted in Washington.

This flurry of activity comes at the end of what Mrs Thatcher sees as a highly successful year for British diplomacy, including resolution of the Common Market budget issue, the Hong Kong agreement, and successful talks with Spain over Gibraltar.

Mrs Thatcher's talks with Mr Gorbachev tomorrow at a meeting attended by a bevy of Ministers or senior officials on both sides, are certain to concentrate heavily on East-West relations and disarmament.

She leaves Heathrow on Monday afternoon on her circumnavigation, thought to be the first by a British Prime Minister, which will keep her in the air for 54 hours.

Her first stop will be Peking where she is expected not only to sign the Hong Kong agreement but to have talks with leaders including Prime Minister Zhao and Deng Xiaoping, the Head of Government.

The Prime Minister, who has visited China twice before, flies on to Hong Kong.

She meets Vice-President Bush in Washington on Saturday morning before flying to Camp David for some three hours of talks with Mr Reagan.

Mrs Thatcher is expected back in London next Sunday morning.

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NHS DRUG LIMIT LIST NOT FINAL, DOCTORS TOLD

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

DRUGS on the limited list of medicines available on the Health Service are being named, "simply as a basis for discussion," Dr Donald Acheson, chief Medical officer for the Health Department, has told doctors.

He has written to all doctors explaining details of the proposed scheme and pointing out "the false nature of some of the misunderstandings which have arisen."

Dr Acheson's action is seen as an attempt to appeal to doctors over the head of the British Medical Association, which is opposed to the limitation scheme, and which has called on family doctors to involve their patients in a campaign against it.

His letter to doctors says the essence of the plan is to limit the range of drugs which can be provided through the Health Service, to include only those which are essential for the treatment of common ailments, such as pain-killers, antibiotics, vitamins and tranquillizers.

Doctors have sent a provisional list of the drugs to be retained in each category after the scheme comes into effect next April, but Dr Acheson stresses that the list is a basis for consultation with doctors and the drug industry.

He says: "The proposals do not limit the freedom of the profession to prescribe any desired medicine. Doctors will be permitted to prescribe medicines no longer available under the NHS means of a private prescription."

"The majority of these preparations do not in any case require a prescription and can already be obtained by the patient over the counter."

Dr Acheson adds that Mr Fowler, Health and Social Ser-

vices Secretary, will welcome the help of doctors in ensuring that the final list contains an adequate range of effective non-branded drugs sufficient to meet all clinical needs.

The British Medical Association has refused to take part in discussions on what drugs are to be included because it is opposed to the principle of a limited list.

BMA CRITICISED 'Unnecessary fuss'

OUR POLITICAL STAFF writes: Mr Patten, junior Health Minister, said yesterday that the drug companies and the British Medical Association had raised "totally unnecessary fears" about the limited list of Health Service drugs and had overlooked the fact that Britain was the only sizeable country not to impose some controls on the numbers of drugs prescribed.

"Most countries apply restrictions across the whole range of drugs, not just the minor drugs covered by these new proposals in the United Kingdom," Mr Patten said at Abingdon.

"Doctors in other countries would, I think, find the unnecessary fuss being made here quite extraordinary."

WAY TO ARREST CRICKET'S DECLINE

SIR—As we survey the decline of English cricket, I wonder if cricket lovers in general, and those responsible for running the game at every level, from small village clubs upwards, appreciate the effect upon the game in schools, arising from educational changes.

Cricket has always been a difficult game in schools. The summer term is short; there are examinations, open days, public holidays, the competing demands of athletics and swimming, together with the cost of equipment and the difficulty in gaining access to suitable playing surfaces.

In the days of the small

secondary school, where perhaps 50 to 55 boys turned out for games at one and the same time, these problems were generally manageable. The presence of similar schools nearby allowed leagues to be organised.

All this has now changed. In the large schools of today, several hundred boys turn out for games at the same time, five days a week. The problems of supplying sufficient equipment and enough space for even a fair proportion of these to play the game are insurmountable.

On the other hand, athletics allows a large number to participate in a fairly small area, and well within the time available. The fine crop of young

athletes who have graced our tracks in recent summers shows where the main effort, performance, has gone. It would be interesting to know what proportion of boys complete their education without ever having had the opportunity to have a bat or a ball in their hands. How many potential Treemans and Comptons are included in this number?

A solution is: for every cricket club to have junior coaching schemes, in liaison with the schools, and to run a series of teams for these age groups. Long-term success can only be based on massive participation.

R. F. HODGSON
South Winfield,
Derbys.

Arrogance of the self-styled experts

SIR—I was saddened and annoyed to read the comments of Mr P. M. Brock (Dec. 11). Saddened at his views and annoyed with his apparent arrogance on the subject of control over head teachers.

I think it would be a sorry day if our lives were entirely governed by the "experts". When my television breaks down I call in the repair man to fix it; I don't expect him to tell me which programmes to watch.

I acknowledge that "parents alone do not always know what is best for their children" in the field of education, but surely there is arrogance in the suggestion that teachers alone do.

Unlike Mr Brock's chiropractors and opticians, teachers have an influence on their pupils which will last a lifetime, and parents who place their children in the hands of these influence-makers are entitled to assess continually standards and ensure that their

children receive the best education possible. On Humberstone we believe that schools are an important part of the community, and as such the community, through governing bodies, including parents, has an equally important role to fulfil. This is not an attempt to usurp head teachers' authority, rather an exercise in accountability.

If Mr Brock accepts, more severely, the advice of "music teachers, dance instructors or indeed specialist instructors of all kinds" without wishing to have an input this is his business; as a parent myself I believe in participation, a synthesis of ideas.

Mr Brock claims: "I know of no other profession where lay people wield as much power." Is not one of the strengths of our education system this contribution of views and ideas? We in local government are always ready to accept sound advice from any quarter. Too many professions which have refused to accept the view of

lay people are finding themselves faced with a barrage of criticism. I am sorry, Mr Brock, I think you've got it wrong. Education is far too important to be left entirely to any single group. It accounts for too much of the public's expenditure to exclude the public and it accounts for too much, in war of influence, to exclude parents.

T. GERAGHTY
Leader,
Humberstone County Cncl.
County Hall,
Beverley, North Humberstone.

'Oxbridge' solecism

SIR—The word "Oxbridge" would surely have qualified for A. P. Herbert's celebrated censure "What a word!"

I invite all graduates of Liverpool and Birmingham to help me to stamp it out.

(Mrs) R. M. MORRIS
Eierloo, Hamis.

Parking perils of Sunday trading

SIR—In the contemplation of the merits or otherwise of Sunday trading there is one aspect which seems to have been overlooked.

If stringent parking restrictions are enforced in all our inner cities and towns Sunday will be as any other weekday and I feel that this will be the death knell of our historic city and downtown churches already hard hit in their weekday activities.

Parking, usually relatively easy on a Sunday, will become very difficult, many of those attending worship, including the elderly and the infirm, rely on private cars as public transport is sparse and irregular. Even if parking restrictions are lifted on Sundays the commercial traffic engendered by such free parking will surely be heavy enough to pre-empt any space.

If we really want our inner cities and towns to become arid areas of commercialism with no visible signs of a Christian way of life?

I. D. MALLIN-JONES
Brighton.

Measured shooting

SIR—In his recent article headed "How do you measure up to your gun?" Mr Tim Head writes that the reputation of the great Lord Ripon evidently rested up generations of lesser shots who followed his examples of shooting with both eyes open.

But surely the art of successful shooting at a moving bird is not to put it with one eye but to swing your arm through the line of flight, watching the bird with both eyes.

JAMES GLOVER
Bishopstone, Sussex.
Other letters—P12

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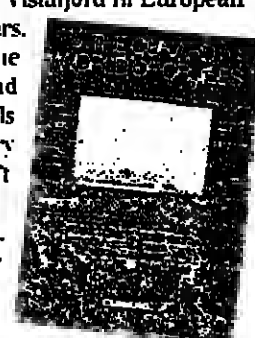
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NHS fails to attract 'new blood' managers

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

GOVERNMENT hopes of bringing executives with experience of management in business or industry into key posts in the National Health Service appear to have been dashed.

Mr Fowler, Social Services Secretary, has just appointed Mr Victor Pease, chairman of the Port of London Authority, to the £70,000 a year post of chairman of the new NHS Management Board.

But the 14 regional health authorities which were also asked by the Government to appoint general managers have conspicuously failed to bring in new blood.

Thirteen of the 14 which have so far made appointments have all given the jobs to existing NHS administrators, who have been regraded and given rises of £5,000.

The 15th appointment, that

of Mr Kenneth Bales, 53, administrator of West Midlands Health Authority, who becomes general manager of the authority at a salary of £28,000, represents a setback for Mr Clarke, Health Minister.

The Government had been particularly anxious to see some of the newly-created posts go to outsiders.

Mr Clarke's go-ahead for the appointment is conditional on the authority agreeing to allow management consultants to examine the regions structure and management.

He had previously infuriated the health authority by asking the appointments committee to consider 10 other candidates along with Mr Bales.

The list of 10 was supplied by Mr Clarke and P.A. International, the firm of management consultants involved in seeking a businessman to chair the NHS management board.

TV tobacco sponsors 'influence children'

By OUR HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SPONSORSHIP of sporting events by tobacco companies is effectively by-passing the ban on television advertising of cigarettes, the British Medical Association claimed yesterday.

PREGNANCY SCANS GET ALL CLEAR

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

DOCTORS were given the go-ahead to continue giving ultra-sound scans to their pregnant patients by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists yesterday.

The College held an inquiry into the effect of the scans, which provide a moving picture of the foetus without the risk of X-rays, after fears expressed in America that they might be dangerous for the unborn baby.

The report concludes that there is no substantial evidence to suggest that diagnostic ultra-sound scans might be harmful.

The report, details of which were published in THE DAILY TELEGRAPH on Nov. 15, says that the advantages of scanning include early diagnosis of multiple pregnancies and of foetal abnormalities.

Maternal bond
"Finally the experience of seeing the baby on the screen, identifying movements and recognising anatomical features increases maternal, and perhaps paternal, bonding and may help to reduce tension."

It says, however, that mothers should not be persuaded to have ultra-sound scans against their will.

"Commercial exploitation of ante-natal scanning by poorly trained personnel solely to let the parents 'see the baby' is to be deplored."

The Medical Research Council is also holding an investigation into the safety of ultra-sound scans and pending its findings, the Health Department has advised doctors not to give the scans on a routine basis.

It calls for sports sponsorship by the tobacco industry to be phased out and rejects suggestions that sport would collapse without it.

The BMA attack was timed to coincide with publication of two surveys of children's knowledge of cigarette brands.

The first survey, involving 880 secondary school boys and girls in Greater Manchester, was carried out 2-5 weeks after another sponsored by Benson and Hedges was shown on BBC Television.

The children were asked to name the cigarette brands they knew. Benson and Hedges came top of the list.

100 hrs of coverage
A second survey was carried out in the week following the end of the Embassy world snooker championship which had more than 100 hours of television coverage in April and May.

It found no increase in the proportion of children recalling the Benson and Hedges brand but there was an increase in the recall of Embassy.

Dr Frank Ledwith of the education department at Manchester University, who carried out the research, said the sponsorship had been shown to act as cigarette advertising to children.

Law circumvented

"There would thus appear to be good grounds for calling for the cessation of tobacco sports sponsorship on TV so as to prevent further circumvention of the law banning the TV advertising of cigarettes."

The BMA is running a major campaign against cigarette smoking as the greatest single preventable cause of premature death and ill-health.

Dr Donald Acheson, Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health, said earlier this week that cigarette smoking causes about 100,000 deaths a year.

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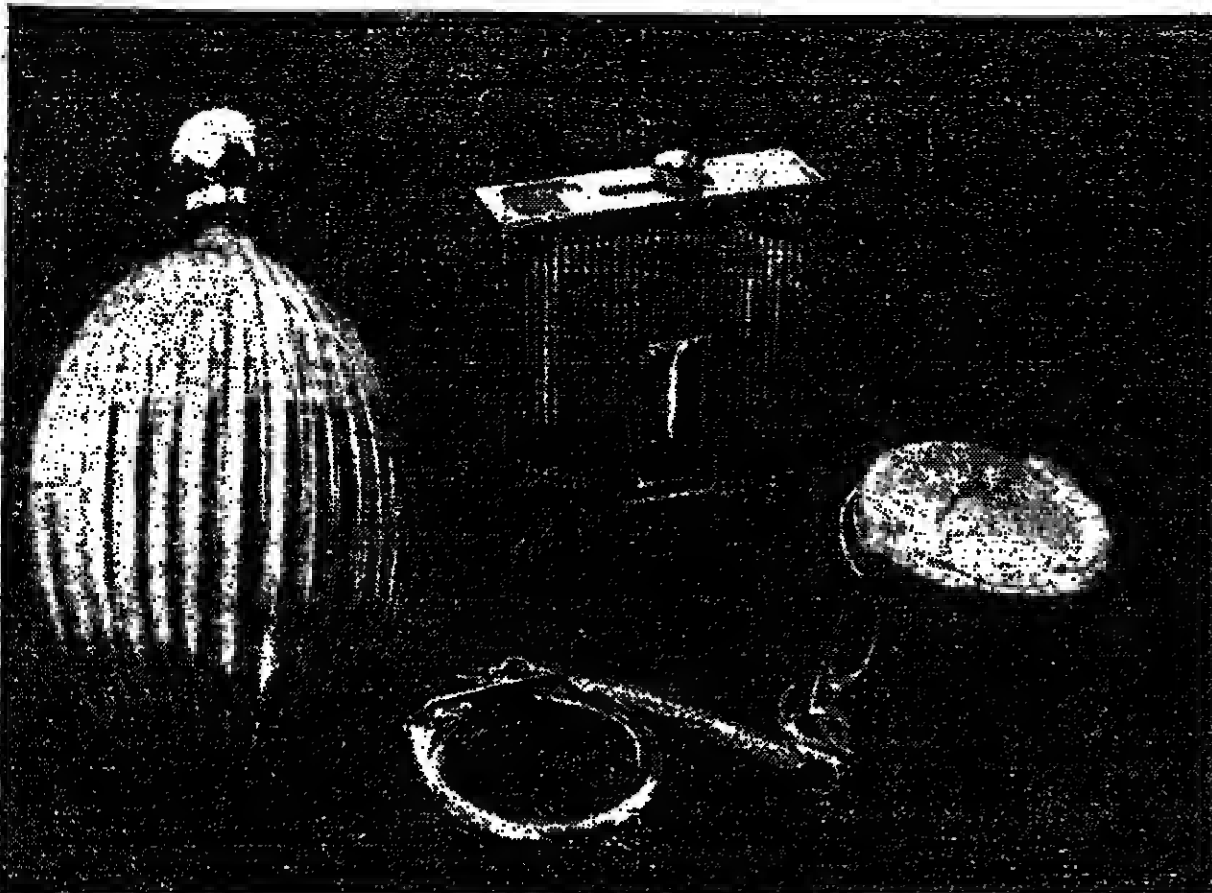
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PRETTY USEFUL

SMALL silver-plated presents look expensive yet often represent incredibly good value, writes ANN CHUBB. And items that are not only pretty but useful, too, will be especially appreciated over the Christmas holidays—and after it.

Take the wonderful range of decorative corks for both wine and champagne bottles that you can find at Thomas Goode, for instance. And so one can own too many corkscrews and bottle-openers.

In picture LEFT, from left: silver-plated oval sash bottle, prettily ridged, £12.95; square ridged dispenser pill-box £9.95; key ring £5.50, all from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

In picture RIGHT, from top left clockwise: silver-plated pickle claw, £3.50; double measuring cup £6.50; cork screw £14.95; bottle opener £12.95, all from Harvey Nichols; champagne cork £14.95, fox cork stopper £4.95, both from Thomas Goode, 19 South Audley Street, London W1.

Pictures by PAUL ARMIGER

Hard lessons from Victorian times

A CHRISTMAS classroom of the 1890s was recreated for an unusual history lesson this week when 30 children turned back the clock to experience what school was like in Macclesfield, Cheshire, nearly 100 years ago.

The lesson marked an important milestone in the restoration of an 1813 Sunday School which, over the next two years, will become a museum and heritage centre for what was once the town's main industry, silk.

Project administrator Tony Newton is keen that the centre should offer more than just conventional exhibits and audio-visual displays. He said: "This Sunday School once played a vital role in the life of the town and provided thousands of children who worked in the Macclesfield silk mills with their only formal education."

It is planned that the £500,000 restoration scheme will enable the four-storey building to become a focal point for the community once again, with meeting rooms for local organisations, an exhibition area, a library and a magnificent gallery assembly hall, which it is hoped will be the permanent base of the Northern Symphony Orchestra.

The tea room is already doing brisk trade and local groups are hiring meeting rooms. This week, 30 eight-year-olds from Lostock Hall Primary School, Poynton, became the first pupils to sample a taste of Victorian schooldays in the renovated classroom.

Educational interpreter



Picture by MIKE ARRON

● LEFT: Arithmetic lessons in a Victorian schoolroom recently restored in a 19th-century Sunday School in Macclesfield. Mr. Hedley Cleaver is a retired local head teacher who voluntarily researched education of the period and sought out authentic schoolroom equipment.

BY JUDI GOODWIN

Les Robinson was "teacher," dressed in 19th-century costume, and the girls wore Victorian-style smocks.

Les Robinson said: "The exercise was somewhere between a theatrical production and a lesson, because we wanted to encourage the children to relive the discipline and suppression of Victorian times. This gives them first-hand experience of the period and we hope it is more real to them than anything they can pick up from reading about it."

The lesson began after an inspection for clean hands and clean shoes and the children sat at some of the Sunday School's

original desks and benches. On the walls were maps and good behaviour mottoes and the pupils did sums on slates, then practised copperplate handwriting using unfamiliar pen and ink and blotters.

Naturally, they found it a very different atmosphere from their modern, carpeted, open-plan school, where their class teacher, Margaret Courtman, uses a less formal approach.

"The discipline was strange to the children because they are normally encouraged to work on their own, organising their activities for themselves," she said. "They

are not used to chanting because we want to train them not just to know lists of facts but to be able to think and form opinions."

Though the children enjoyed their working noise would have liked to have been born in Victorian times.

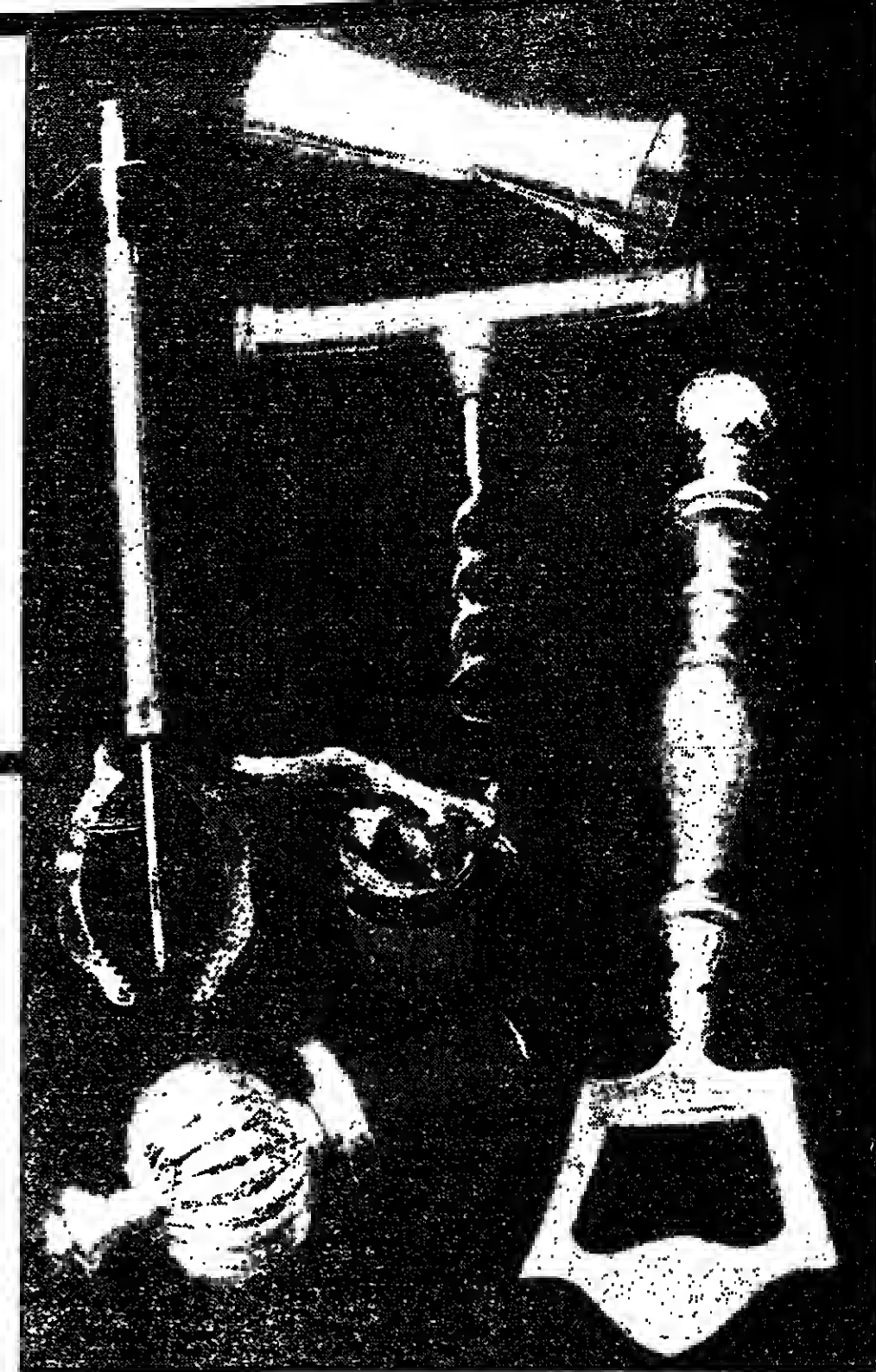
Melissa Jowers, aged eight, commented: "The teacher was strict and you had to sit up straight all the time and keep your hands behind your back. The children worked hard in the mills and got diseases. And they had to say 'Yes, Mam' to the teacher and always have a clean handkerchief."

More school visits are

planned in the new year and education officer Karen de Lewandowicz and her staff hope to develop the use of the assembly hall to produce young peoples' plays on the history of the town and run a Saturday club.

The education team and all the Heritage Centre staff are financed by Manpower Services and the project is funded by the community and local industry as well as local authorities and government.

Donations of £160,000 are still required but plans are well in hand for the next phase of the Sunday School, scheduled for February next year. This will include an exhibition of the town's history, the story of the Sunday School itself and a tourist information centre.



Village life: is it all it seems?

WHEN I moved from London to the depths of the countryside 10 years ago I had no illusions about the physical hardships of country life. I did harbour, though, some major misconceptions about country people.

I accepted the myth that townspeople had been corrupted by city life and that out there in the backwoods people retained the real values of supportive communities and stable family life, while they enjoyed the satisfaction of a hard life of toil and lived by the simple wisdom acquired by being close to the soil, the seasons and God.

Yet our new neighbours formed an inward-looking community with a deep distrust of strangers. They feared that outsiders would push up property prices, fill scarce jobs and put pressure on sketchy local services. Far from being welcomed with open arms, we were greeted by closed faces and wary, side-long glances.

We learned quickly that a countryman's word is not his bond, but can be a polite way of saying "no" or of keeping his options open. There was little sign of mutual support: indeed the

community seemed bent on destroying itself. The bus service was withdrawn because people preferred to save 2p and walk to the main road.

Then the village shop closed because the locals declared that no-one was going to make money out of them by charging 5p more for a bag of flour than the town supermarket did.

The local pub still survives but, instead of being full of

of their fruit cakes and the skill of their flower arrangements. Only men talk of important matters and, if you venture an opinion on anything more serious than food prices, you are asked if you want a soapbox.

Slowly, we have come to terms with the people and made some friends. Evening classes organised by the local university provided the intellectual interest I was seeking.

We have become fairly regular churchgoers and we are now accepted as associates, if not full-life, members of the community.

There are more newcomers now. They whizz through the village in their Volvo Estates, mow the verges outside their houses, resist even the most essential changes in the area and complain about farmers blocking footpaths.

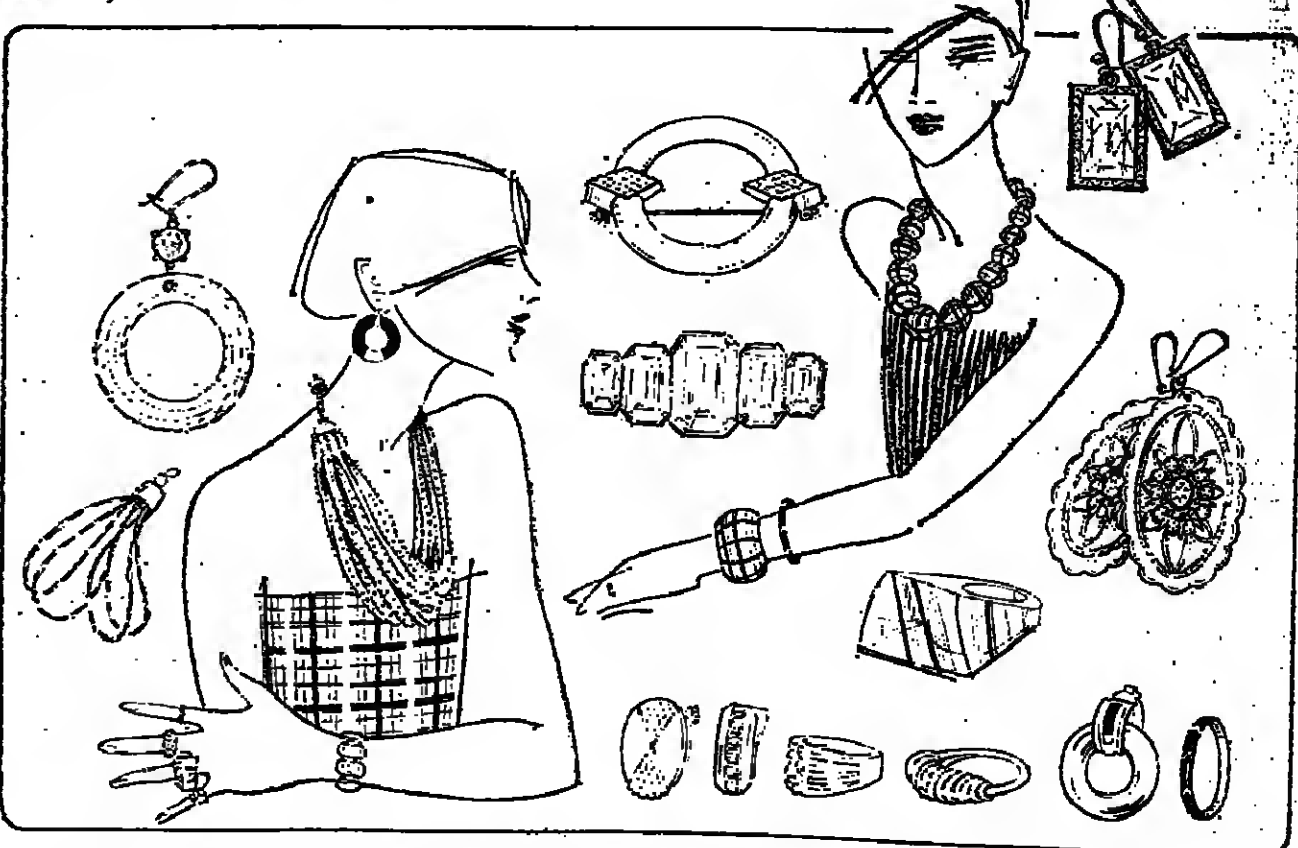
Occasionally, they come into the pub and buy drinks for the not-so-local customers and wait for the pearls of rural wisdom. As they leave, teeth are clenched, eyes narrow and we mutter: "Who do they think they are?"

Mary Jefferson

VIEWPOINT

THE FESTIVE SPARKLERS

Sketch by KAREN BECK



SPARKLE a-plenty is many men's easy Christmas Eve solution to the Loved One's gift. This sketch of the current costume jewellery winners around London should steer him: rock crystal, Liqueur-look crystal, as newer than solo diamond, and copper is looming large for spring Goodies here, from £1.95 up, should work for girlfriend gifts as well as those from well-heeled husbands.

SERENA SINCLAIR

SKETCHED, clockwise from far left: loop earrings, multi-coloured bugle beads, £1.95; Lucite gipsy drop with diamond stone, £6.50; both from Liberty. Liqueur-look circular brooch with twin diamond diamonds, £35, from Ken Lane, South Molton Street, London W1.

On girl, right: Green, red and yellow tartan necklace £17.95, bracelet £4.95, from Fenwick. Black ring £6 and bangle £12.50, from Ken Lane.

Engraved steel-frame glass rectangle earrings £5.95 and steel oval earrings sprinkled with diamonds £7.95, both from Fenwick.

Earrings, bottom sketch: quartered gold and

diamanté £19.50, tailored clip earring, gold with strip of diamanté £11, gold with diamanté ring £17.50, ribbed gold with centre of diamanté £13.25, earclip in silver with gold and jet top £22.50 and black metal ring with gold notches £6, all from Ken Lane.

On girl, left: Multi-strand black seed-bead necklace (fastened with silk cord) £15.95 from Liberty. Mock copper stretch bracelet from the same store £7.95, wood and silver earring £5.95.

Centre of drawing: five-stones mock-rings brooch £4.95, from Fenwick, and (below girl's arm) mock-Stetson striped plastic ring £3.95, from Liberty.

Offer him mistletoe and he'd eat it.



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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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LABOUR TO THE SIDELINES

MR GUMMER THINKS it was "quite a good result in a by-election at this time." David Steel thinks it was "in the circumstances a very good result." Labour, like Poshum, is laying low and saying nothing. All of which sums up the outcome of the Southgate by-election with a fair degree of accuracy. For the Government a majority of 5,000 on a 50 per cent. poll is perfectly respectable; while for the Liberals a 50 per cent. increase in their vote is rather more than just respectable. For Labour yet another lost deposit—their third in seven by-elections so far in this Parliament—is, quite simply, horrible. Eighteen months into HAROLD MACMILLAN's second Administration, Labour contrived a decent second place in all four simultaneous by-elections in safe Tory seats.

By-elections are of far more psychological than statistical significance. All sorts of special circumstances are liable to be magnified by the impact of tactical voting and the knowledge that the choice of Government is not at stake. Had the by-election been caused by the departure of the former Member for, let us say, the feshpots of Brussels, instead of by his brutal murder in a terrorist outrage, all experience suggests it might have been a close-run thing. As it is the Government's business managers will disperse their troops for Christmas with a sigh of relief.

Yet if all the seven by-elections of this Parliament are assessed together one deduction begins to be apparent which is not as yet reflected in the regular opinion polls. And that is that over most of England, from the Borders to the Channel, the Labour party is beginning to appear as an irrelevance. In Scotland, the Welsh valleys, and some inner-city areas Labour's grip may still be unimpaired. But elsewhere the Alliance is widely perceived to be the challenger to Government. For the Tory party this is not a particularly reassuring message, since the fear of Labour's militants has long been a vital ingredient in the Tory vote. Yet for the country at large the confirmation that the battle lines in future will be drawn between two parties equally committed to promote a successful mixed economy would be a prize of great worth.

SET FREE

THE DECISION OF A FEDERAL JUDGE in New York is that a convicted murderer, one Doherty, is not to be extradited because, in the words of Judge Sruozzo, "the facts of the case present the assertion of the political offence exception in its most classic form." From such classic forms and judges, good Lord deliver us. The man was convicted. The quality of an American law below the Supreme Court is of a genuinely mixed and uncertain sort, often good, often influenced by political factors. But the judge is able to make such a decision because the international law upon which it was based has archaic roots. The idea of the fugitive seeking political asylum or indeed evading persecution has great appeal here as well as in America. We are influenced by folk memories—of black slaves seeking the refuge of the free states, of Jews in flight from the pogroms of Tsarist Russia, indeed of those who have sought a decent life away from the repression of post Tsarist Russia. With rare exceptions like the fearful Lienzmercy shown to Ukrainian refugees by the representative of the British Cabinet at the end of the war, we also warm to the idea of the refugee. But Doherty is a murderer. He has been convicted in a proper court of law. In the eyes of New York politics he is a refugee from brutal British colonial oppression. (New York, let us not forget, is a city in which it is thought impolitic for the Union flag to hang beside those of other allied countries.)

What should be done is obvious. Whether there is any point in doing it when dealing with a legal system as politically sensitive as that of America is another matter. International law should be amended, something which could be done in a short conference, involving the liberal democracies. All that is required is that a prima facie case of murder or attempted murder should be expressly excluded from "political offence" exception. We deport murderers. We expect better people to do so. Otherwise we are heading for a revenge situation in which a criminal with political entitlements who has killed in the United States, might cease to appear the indefensible offender he does today. The United States Government should know that British people, much patronised but still waiting to be friends, feel great anger at this gross decision.

Attention

By the Very Rev. MICHAEL STANCLIFF
Dean of Winchester

REAL listening requires not only expectancy but also giving all possible attention to the sounds we hear as long as they last. Obvious enough, and easily said; but less easily done, for attention is something which can quickly be lost—on, more accurately, drawn away to something else.

At the root of the word is the idea of tension. Those hearing with attention are stretching towards one particular source of sound to the exclusion of all else. The listener is tense in body and still as stone to receive the music, words or whatever. But there's nothing still about his mind which reaches out deliberately and continuously to those to whom he is listening. A speaker soon knows when he has the attention of his audience. They are "with him," and all a speaker can hear a pin drop. People listened to Jesus like that: they "hung upon his words" (Luke 14:35).

For many of us today the effort of such listening is too demanding. When our attention begins to wander we excuse ourselves that the speaker is inaudible, or doesn't make himself clear, or he is boring—we've heard it all before and there's nothing novel to catch and hold our interest. So we switch off. Which is only another way of saying, I can't be bothered to listen if I don't get what I want loud, clear, fresh and quick. I no longer have faith in the speaker that he will sooner or later say something—perhaps only one sentence—of real relevance to me and not to be missed.

When it comes to listening to God speaking to us in our prayers, through the Bible or through the words of his prophets, saints and present-day messengers, we may think we can hear nothing. Is the fault always in those who are his mouthpieces today? Or is it our own lack of attention?

Do I believe, and realise, that in this particular and very familiar extract from the Gospels to which I'm half-attending God is saying something which he means for me in my personal situation as a Christian this very day? What is it?

Church Services Tomorrow—P8

COMMENTARY

Ferdinand Mount

LIKE CHRISTMAS shopping and the football season, the Budget debate seems to grow longer every year. There used to be no more than a cursory discussion before Ash Wednesday. Now the hubbub is fortifying by the preceding Advent.

This ought to be a good thing. If Mr Lawson really intends to put VAT on food or newspapers or to remove some of the concessions on housing schemes in order to cut down the tax, then there should be a thorough public argument about it.

But in practice what tends to happen is a crude alternative of squawks from the relevant lobby and soothing pledges from the Prime Minister. Avenues are blocked off before they have been explored; stones are left distinctly unturned.

Mrs Thatcher has already promised not to put VAT on food (although taking away food VAT had now not to be a mortgage interest relief and not to put VAT on new housing). Mr Lawson himself has promised not to put VAT on pension repayments (which suggests he might still tax them prospectively).

All this is a natural response to political pressure. It is under the same pressure that the Prime Minister has reiterated her belief that income tax cuts are the answer to unemployment.

Thus the Government appears to be drifting towards a tricky situation. Within a sound fiscal policy, there will be little room to cut taxes if Mr Lawson is not allowed to raise the tax privileges and exemptions which still disfigure the system, and what room there is (Mr Lawson's famous £1,500 million) will be taken up in raising the income tax thresholds for everybody.

That will not do—either for the unemployed or for the Government.

Raising income tax thresholds by a relatively trifling amount will have an even more trifling effect on unemployment. To put it in figures: £1,500 million of income tax is reckoned to produce only about 50,000 extra jobs.

If the same £1,500 million were spent on the Community Programme for the long-term unemployed, it would provide work for 500,000 people and probably more.

Indeed, that sort of expenditure would carry the Government quite close to abolishing involuntary unemployment for the million-plus people who have been out of work for a year or more. There would be something to do for everyone who felt like it.

The Community Programme is very far from perfect. Its worst feature (originating from the involvement of the TUC) is that the local unio rate for the job has to be paid. Thus the programme sets the worst of both worlds. While the (mostly part-time) work it offers is still written off by some Ministers as "not real jobs," it is remunerated at all too real rates of pay.

Yet a canal or coastal path cleared, or a pensioner's loft insulated, or an allotment dug is just as much a real addition to the nation's wealth as any other service performed.

Rumours of the death of the work ethic have been much exaggerated. It is in tune with most people's sense of justice that the State should offer "fallback income" just as it offers fallback income to people who have lost their jobs—not least because it is the State's own tangle of taxes and regulations which is largely responsible for the rise of unemployment in the first place.

THE CHINESE authorities panicked last week and corrected the statement in the People's Daily that "we cannot depend on the works of Marx and Lenin to solve our modern-day questions." The statement apparently should have read "all of our modern-day questions."

The correction is much less important than it seems. For we are still left with the crucial preamble: "Marx died 100 years ago. His works are more than a century old."

Statements of Marx from domaged nineteenth-century editions are far more damaging to Marxism than any refutation by Western scholars, however brilliant.

For the Chinese are thereby denying the claims of Marxism to be a science which is the key to all truths. To show Marx firmly back into his times and so to endow him with the prejudices and blindfolds of his contemporaries—is the first step to putting him on the shelf.

THERE IS something about lunch in the dining-car. Perhaps it is the brown Windsor soup served to the heavy British Rail china. Or the strange white sauce which envelopes the fish. I know it is the radishes and the celery which come with the cheese—and the feeling of being away from it all.

Not unnaturally, British Rail is moving briskly to deal with this remnant of the pleasures of rail travel.

In the New Year, in order to "improve the service" on the London Midland region, first-class passengers will be served "airline-style" meals in their seats. Second-class travellers will have to queue in the buffet.

In a statement which wins the Newspeak Challenge Cup for 1984, British Rail explains: "The experiment in modular catering will provide a far better service."

Why, so it will. If modular catering be the food of love, play on, give us excess of it.

TIM HEALD catches up with Geoffrey Moorhouse

A Cook's tour to a North West Frontier

AS Geoffrey Moorhouse remarked wryly the other day, literary London might almost be on the verge of regarding him as a "real writer"—not the same as a poet or a playwright, of course, but several prizes up the esteem scale from being a "mere" journalist, which is what he was before he took to books.

He now finds himself the winner of this year's Thomas Cook award for travel writing, a thoroughly well-deserved accolade for his book about the North-West Frontier. It's curious that so little attention has been paid to this because since Paul Theroux published his first book, *Train Journeys*, travel writing has become positively fashionable.

A year or so ago he left his home and haunts in Hertfordshire and London and moved to Gayle, a little huddle of houses in Wonsloydale which Nikolaus Pevsner says is "almost as intricate as an Italian stone village." There on his own North West Frontier he lives with Marilyn, the third Mrs Moorhouse, in a sturdy 200-year-old house which, when I visited him, withstood the buffeting gale with never a creak or rattle.

It seemed a rather appropriate home for a man who once rode a camel across the Sahara. You have to be slightly bloody-minded and a little bit batty to pull that off, and I felt a bit like that about Gayle and the Moorhouse house. Battly to build anything in such a wilderness, however beautiful; bloody-minded to survive.

PART of the attraction of the setting is the walking. At the end of the garden is a signpost. The left pointing arm says "Pennine Way" and so does the right. Like any self-respecting winner of a Thomas Cook award, he's a serious walker and on a blustery November morning took me up the Pennine Way on to Ten End round Dodd Fell and back down the Cam Road, part of the Roman road from Lancaster to Richmond, and then home down the steep slope of Wether Fell. Eighteen miles.

Every so often we would stop for a piece of Kendal mint cake and he would wave his stick expansively in the direction of Wharfedale and Widdale or Langstrothdale Chase or some other bluntly craggy northerly named feature and shout "Aren't I lucky?" into the teeth of the gale.

*To the Frontier. Hodder and Stoughton, 29-35.

From Russia with laughs—and the KGB

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, the Kremlin number two, comes to London today with a delegation of 21 including several so-called Soviet M.P.s, two generals, his own doctor, and Leonid Zamyatin his "Press spokesman."

Zamyatin, head of the Communist party's international information department, became the laughing stock among western correspondents in Moscow by insisting that his boss, Yuri Andropov, was merely suffering from a "cold" two days before the Soviet President died. Since then, understandably, Zamyatin has steadily lost influence.

The top KGB man with the delegation is Major General N. D. Rogov, officially described as Gorbachev's "chief of staff."

But my main watch is Ivan Strelchenko, a coal-miner from the Donbass region which has contributed generously to Scargill's strike-funds. Will he want to join a picket? Will he publicly back Comrade Scargill?

The Foreign Office is still undecided whether his inclusion on the delegation is a deliberate provocation or Soviet sense of humour.

Whistling in the dark

ALTHOUGH the Government is publicly confident that the miners' strike will not produce power cuts this winter I gather that the Central Electricity Generating Board is not so self-assured.

At the notice boards of its Newgate Street headquarters is a memo marked "Not for publication outside the CEBG" which reminds staff of "the efforts being made by the board to ensure the continuing availability of electricity supplies during the miners' strike."

"We at headquarters can make a small but positive contribution to this aim... by economising in the use of electricity... Please be particularly careful by switching off lights whenever rooms are not occupied and minimising the use of kettles and other electrical appliances."

Buy your candles now.

The Law Society leaflet entitled "How the Law Affects You" contains the advice under the sub-heading "Business Investment" which reads: "It is necessary to consult a professional adviser before making an application to invest in a fraud."

For those in peril

A SPLENDIDLY Irish twist has emerged in the case of the gun running Irish trawler *Marina Ann* which ended this week with 10-year jail sentences for the skipper and two crew members at Dublin's Special Criminal Court.

When a boarding party from the Irish navy corvette *Emor* took control of the trawler they ordered it to make full steam ahead for port. But



Although this is Yorkshire and he is Lancashire through and through it is very much home territory. He was brought up in Bolton and Bury, on the other side of the hills, but they are the same hills and at 62 he says if he can have another 20 years of living here and slogging stirring as far as Lancaster left alone London he'd die happy.

Already you can feel his writer's antennae twitching. Down the dale at Aysgarth where we went to buy proper farm-made Blue Wonsloydale and Swadlode cheese there's an old mill by the waterfall. "Do you know," he says, "they made the material for Garibaldi's red shirts here. Now why would Garibaldi get his shirts in Aysgarth?"

He had good stories too of Raymond, the postmaster, and their arguments about Geoffrey Boycott, of the children from an isolated farm who came to school one day, got stuck in a snowstorm and couldn't get home for nine weeks; of the Bainbridge horn blower. "Are you going to write about Wensleydale?" I asked suspiciously. He looked mischievous. "Not yet," he said.

It was a terrible thing for a working class lad like him to become something as airy fairy as a writer and journalist. The careers master at Bury Grammar School told him he should go into a bank. Young Geoffrey said he thought that might be rather dull and in any case, he wanted to travel. The careers master looked sage. "Barclays have branches in Lagos," he said. But he didn't go into banking. He joined the BOLTON EVENING NEWS and then went to New Zealand, where he worked for various papers.

Back home he joined the northern edition of the NEWS CRONICLE and then became a sub-editor on the MANCHESTER GAZETIER. He talks about the MANCHESTER GAZETIER—note the Manchester—with the same reverence he shows for Bolton Woaders and Lancashire cricket.

LONDON DAY BY DAY

The Marita Ann did not hudge an inch. Divers discovered that her propeller had dropped off and she was unceremoniously towed into harbour.

If the Marita Ann, with its cargo of guns destined for the IRA, had not been arrested by the Emer, the chances are that she would have been called upon to rescue her.

Mission to explain

BRITISH TELECOM, in its privately-owned form might like to take a leaf from the book of the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation which recently had a cable fire which cut off 84,000 subscribers in the Tokyo suburb of Setagaya-ku.

The corporation despatched 1,700 employees to bow deeply, offer a letter of apology and explain the situation to a towel as a token gift to each of the affected customers.

Protecting interests

CLAUDE TAITTINGER, the champagne house patriarch, has been telling one of some of the problems which he is possessing a name associated with the finer things of life.

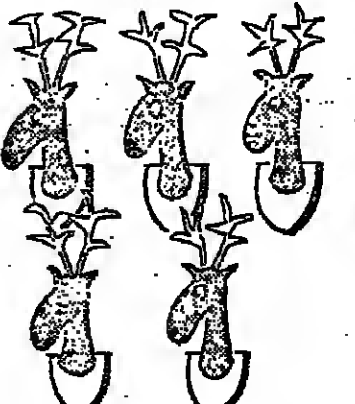
Recently, on a trip to America, he was surprised to come upon a restaurant which bore his name—guarded family name. Curious, he entered the place and gave it the Gallic once-over.

The proprietor sensing with a sinking heart that Taittinger did not take to what he saw, tried to bluster his way out saying: "Buddy, I stole your name but you gotta be flattered." Taittinger was not—he is suing.

No stalling

HORSES ARE rarely known for their memory but the remarkable recall of a pair in a first world war gun team. Jones and Joubert, is justly recorded in Regimental Heritage, a new book celebrating the Royal Artillery.

The two horses left Aldershot in



By the way, the horses are named JONES and JOUBERT.

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LETTERS

Housing intentions at Stansted

SIR—Evidence collated by the Department of the Environment relating to the condition of the nation's housing stock witnesses to the fact that dilapidation is outstripping current programmes of improvement and renewal.

During the last few years housing programmes have borne the major part of public expenditure cuts and the incidence of identified homelessness has increased.

Against such a background many local housing authorities will view the recommended development at Stansted with concern and dismay. In his report Mr Graham Eyre, O.C. estimates that a projected capacity of 15 million passengers a year would require the construction of some 10,000 new homes and if capacity were boosted to 25 million passengers some 17,000 new homes might be required.

The evidence presented to the inquiry by the Department of the Environment made it clear that development at and around Stansted should be facilitated by a re-allocation or re-distribution of resources and the Government could not be committed to provide new additional capital investment.

Local housing authorities simply cannot afford further reduction in capital investment available to tackle existing housing problems and it would be most ironic if, having been advised by Government to face the reality of limitation upon that which the nation can afford, it was now to be suggested that, from already depleted resources, housing authorities around the country could afford to fund Stansted.

ERIC PATTON
Chairman N.W. Regional Exec. Ctee.
Nat. Housing Town Planning Ctee.
Salford, Gtr. Manchester.

Speed on motorways

SIR—Following the recent M25 traffic accident, I must express concern over the standard of driving on British motorways.

Living in South London and commuting to work as a pilot at Gatwick Airport, I travel along the M25 at different times of day and night.

It never ceases to amaze me how many drivers break the limit speed, road cars seldom maintain adequate gaps.

Other letters, page 7

ation from one another, and it is not uncommon for lorries to overtake at speeds in excess of 70 m.p.h.

Mrs Chalker, Transport Minister, recently stated that in her opinion the motorways are properly policed. This I cannot accept.

The county constabularies have neither the time, money nor manpower to concentrate on enforcing motorway laws and apprehending those who violate them. Long ago this should have been made the responsibility of an independent traffic police authority.

I have just returned from the United States where highways are patrolled by separate State Departments. In Texas, for example, the Department of Public Safety enforces the national speed limit of 55 m.p.h. Department of Public Safety or Highway Patrol cars are very much in evidence on the roads, and general public awareness of the police seems to deter motorists from breaking the law.

Surely it is time to stop the dangerous driver on Britain's motorways. Law enforcement must be a priority.

TIM ROBINS
Bromley, Kent.

Threats to the hunt

SIR—Mr Adrian Berry (article Dec. 10) advises hunts to advertise their meeting places in code so that anti-hunt squads, armed with clubs and worse, will not be able to harm them. His advice is sensible, given the increasing prevalence of violent attacks on hunt followers, their vehicles and even, ironically, their horses. But his article raises a number of points.

Hunting is a legal activity with a long history. It happens to be more popular now than ever before. It takes place with the permission of landowners and is a public activity with nothing to hide.

Why should hunts have to take to secrecy and advertise only in code simply because anarchists have now resorted to a national policy of violence against them? The code system proposed by Mr Berry would indeed allow regular followers to find the hunt, but what of casual visitors, notably the hundreds and thousands who on Boxing Day would normally watch their local hunt? Why should access to a lawful, organised country pursuit be curtailed by threats?

Why should violence and intimidation be allowed to succeed?

JOHN HOPKINSON
Director, British Field Sports Soc.
London, S.E.1.

Latvian pride

SIR—The Latvian Government may be a Russian puppet, but this does not stop the people proudly calling themselves Latvians.

It was therefore distressing for myself and my fellow countrymen to see the conductor Mariss Yansons described as Russian in your recent review. Fortunately an obituary to his father Arvid on Nov. 22 got this nationality right.

Many Latvians, by force of circumstance, are citizens of the Soviet Union, but it is no more correct to call them Russian as it is to refer to the Welsh as English.

Please don't rob us of the last vestige of pride left to us.

MIKELIS MEZMALETIS
Maidenhead, Berks.

A late curtsy

SIR—Mrs Renée Oshard (Dec. 6) would be interested, I am sure, to know that I was taught to curtsy when I was 17. My two daughters, aged 12 and 13, also learnt this delightful and now unheard-of courtesy in their childhood, required when meeting ladies or very old men—a nod to future equality of the sexes?

They were certainly not alone in this. I remember one of the school friends and I, dropping a pretty curtsy on myself as late as 1966.

(Mrs) Y. LEWIS
London, N.41.

Tax bill may force sale of Kedleston and its treasures

By ROBERT BEDLOW Estate Correspondent

KEDLESTON HALL, in Derbyshire, considered one of the finest stately homes in Europe, is in danger of being sold and its priceless furniture and paintings dispersed.

Urgent talks were being held last night between the Government and its agencies in an effort to halt the break-up of the estate, the home of the Curzons for more than 850 years.

This followed a High Court move yesterday by the trustees of the estate, valued at more than £20 million. The sought guidance on paying £2,500,000 in Capital Transfer Tax.

The present Viscount Scarsdale took over the estate on the death of his cousin in 1977. He inherited the Hall and 5,700 Kedleston acres, which include a 500-acre park, 17 farms and an 18-hole golf course. The tax bill came with it, and concerns the land.

Kedleston Hall was designed by the neo-classical architect Robert Adam. It is unique in that it was virtually built around a picture collection and the furniture was made for the house.

Mr Angus Stirling, director-general of the National Trust said last night: "There must be a general acceptance that Kedleston must not be broken up because of its paramount historical and architectural importance."

Options faced

To meet the tax bill, the trustees are faced with the following options:

In make it over to the Government, with the National Trust taking over.

Partial transfer to the Government of the house, paintings, furniture and land.

A combination of Government take-over and sale of part of the estate and house.

Complete sale of the estate, with Kedleston and its contents, to a single purchaser.

Break-up of the estate, house and its contents to several purchasers.

The estate's trustees said: "Over a year ago we offered the hall, its parklands and some of the principal contents to the nation in lieu of tax liabilities."

"Because we have not received an offer from the

Unthinkable sale

Mr Patrick Cormack, Conservative MP for South Staffordshire, has asked Mr Lawson, Chancellor, what progress has been made in negotiations to acquire Kedleston for the nation.

Mr Cormack said: "It would be unthinkable that it should be sold, its collected dispersed, and its park despoiled."

Much will depend upon the National Heritage Memorial Fund, headed by Lord Cherter, who has complained that there has been insufficient funding to retain Britain's treasures.

Earlier this year they funded the purchase of Belton House, at a cost of £3 million, and later, Calk Abbey, with £7,500,000 after a special grant from the Government. Both houses are considered inferior to Kedleston.

Government we are forced to consider selling either the whole of the hall and its estate or at least a major part of it."

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"Because we have not received an offer from the

Register 'to protect historic gardens'

By ROBERT BEDLOW Estates Correspondent

IN a move to gain statutory recognition and control of historic gardens in England the first register of historic parks and gardens was launched in London by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, the chairman of English Heritage.

He said: "We hope that shortly the gardens of England might get the protection they deserve."

Gardens, which have enjoyed increasing popularity, are now considered part of the national heritage, in the same way as buildings, paintings and furniture.

Lord Montagu, announcing one of English Heritage's major initiatives since its formation a year ago, said: "This register should highlight their importance to developers and other statutory bodies, and act as an early warning against ill-considered development."

Alert planners

He added: "The register will, for example, alert highway planners when new motorway proposals might run through an important historic park or garden and it will allow them to draft alternatives."

Work on the register began with the Historic Buildings Council for England, which Mrs Jennifer Jenkins, which ceased to exist in April, when its responsibilities were transferred to the new Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission, known as English Heritage.

The register is being compiled on a county-to-county basis and entries for the first 10 counties have now been issued listing over 200 parks and gardens. Entries for the whole of England should be complete by the end of 1986.

It includes gardens belonging to public and civic bodies, local councils and to organisations such as the National Trust, as well as to private owners.

Historic features

English Heritage is responsible for number of gardens which will qualify for the new register. They include Wrest Park, Bedfordshire, the gardens at Audley End, Essex, and also those at Belsay Hall, Northumberland.

The register covers gardens and parks with historic features dating from 1850 or earlier which are graded with the same symbols as are used for statutorily listed buildings. Existing planning and listed building consent is not affected by the register which does not carry statutory controls.

Lord Montagu, however, is confident that within the near future gardeners will be given the same protection.

To emphasise the importance attached to the gardens and parks as part of England's heritage, the Commission has appointed its own Gardens Inspector, Dr Christopher Thacker, former editor of *Garden History*. Inclusion in the register has

Relative importance

Grade I applies to parks and gardens which by reason of their historic layout, features and architectural ornaments make them of exceptional interest.

Grade II covers those which are considered, if not of exceptional interest, at least of great quality.

Grade III includes those of special interest.

The gradings reflect the importance of the garden or park concerned, in comparison with other gardens or parks in England as a whole.

If there is a listed building within the limits of a registered park or garden, the grade is not necessarily the same, since the building and the garden or park are not always of equal importance.

Every entry has been checked with the owners before inclusion, and revised and additional entries will be issued from time to time.

PROBATION FOR BBC RADIO PRODUCER

A BBC radio drama producer, probation for two years at Bristol yesterday for two indecent assaults on a boy of 15.

Miller, married with one child, of Queen Victoria Road, Clifton, Bristol, had admitted both charges at an earlier hearing.

He recently produced a radio version of "Great Expectations" and another drama, "The essential History of Troy Town". Both will be broadcast in the New Year. His production of "Our Man in Havana" won the Sony award for John Nettles.

JETHOU ISLE SOLD

The 50-acre private Channel Island of Jethou, three miles from Guernsey, has been sold for an unknown price to Mr Anthony Burroughs, a Cayman Islands resident. The lease of Jethou - which is Crown property - was offered for sale a year ago for upwards of £500,000 by Lady Hayward, widow of Sir Charles Hayward, the philanthropist.



Miss Di Francis with the Big Black Beast of the Highlands—stuffed.

CUNARD CRUISE CANCELLED

By JOHN PETTY Shipping Correspondent

DISCOVERY of a small crack in the hull of the QE2 has helped to delay completion of the ship's £5 million refit in West Germany and caused cancellations of a week-end cruise for which 1,450 people had paid fares of between £145 and £565.

Cunard contacted intending passengers yesterday to tell them the voyage round the English Channel was off, with full refund of money on an £100 voucher to set against a future cruise in the 67,000-ton liner.

Most of the passengers booked were from areas in easy reach of Southampton and they are being offered a free lunch and a party on the ship there tomorrow.

The liner is now expected to reach Southampton from Bremerhaven tonight. Although the refit was not in Germany, most of the value of the work to refurbishing was placed with British firms. About 400 British workers have been in Germany helping do the job.

Hull cut open

The refit went to Hapag-Lloyd for the second year running because Vöslper Thoryoroff in Southampton could not compete on time or price.

The tiny crack was repaired in drydock in Bremerhaven. The hull had been cut to get economies through the side of the ship and into the hull-room to reduce fuel consumption.

But Cunard stressed that this cutting was not the cause of the crack.

There also appeared to have been some problem in upgrading air-conditioning and this was a contributory cause of the delay.

The ship is due to depart on 20-day Christmas cruise to the Caribbean but should have no problems on that.

Meanwhile, Cunard is to call for price-quotations for putting new engines into the ship. "She is now about 15 years old and is costly in terms of fuel consumption," states Sir Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House, which owns Cunard.

The contract could cost £50 million, including lost revenue while the liner was out of operation for 10 months. The work, if ordered, would start in November, 1986.

SEA-ING IN 1985

A New Year's Eve party at sea for 2,000 people each paying £16.50 for a round trip to Holland from Harwich and getting a £5 voucher to spend on board, is planned by Sealink.

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Dance posters put gays out of step

By JOHN GRIGSBY Local Government Correspondent

POSTERS for Thursday afternoon town hall dances which show a man and a woman dancing together have angered members of the women's committee of the London borough of Brent. "Gays and lesbians do not get a look in," Angela Brittain, the committee chairman, said yesterday.

She said that there was no reason why the posters should not show men dancing with men and women with women.

The council, which is ruled by the Tories with Liberal support, will be asked on Monday to approve guidelines for "sexist" material.

The women's committee wants council literature and posters to be redesigned to portray old people, homosexuals, blacks and disabled people who make up a large part of the population.

The committee objects to posters which show the "stereotypical" type of young white heterosexuals when many in the borough are none of these.

Miss Ellen Reynolds, the council's full-time £14,000-a-year women's officer, said: "Lesbians and gays are ratepayers and pay taxes. Therefore they want to be addressed and acknowledged in any publicity material which comes out and not ignored."

The women's committee was started by the last Labour administration. Its budget is £28,000 a year.

Mr Robert Lacey, the Conservative leader of the council, who has been in power for a year with Liberal support said: "We would close the committee this show that it is a complete waste of money."

But the Liberal, who holds the balance of power, are in favour of the committee and are likely to support the guidelines.

LAY HEAD FOR STONYHURST

By Our Education Correspondent

Stonyhurst College, the Jesuit boarding school, has appointed the first lay headmaster since its foundation in 1593. Dr Giles Mercer, 35, director of studies at Sherborne School, is to succeed Father Michael Bossy when he retires in September.

Dr Mercer is a Roman Catholic and is married. His son, Edward, seven, is expected to attend St Mary's Hall, the Jesuit preparatory school that stands on the same site as Stonyhurst.

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'New strain' of wildcat discovered

By IAN BOYNE A DEVON-BASED naturalist.

Miss Di Francis, claimed yesterday she has discovered a new strain of Scottish wildcat.

Miss Francis is waiting for verification from the Natural History Museum in South Kensington.

The stuffed carcass of the big cat, nicknamed the "black beast", which is taller and heavier than normal wildcats which are usually tabby coloured, has been examined at the museum.

Yesterday a museum spokesman would not comment on the claim, but said a report would be published "within the next few weeks."

The beast was one of three shot by farmers in the same area, near Forres, Morayshire, two years ago.

Miss Francis, 41, of Torquay, has been trying to prove the existence of a new British wildcat. She said: "They are jet black in colour, and that makes them entirely new."

"This is not the same as the Beast of Exmoor or Dartmoor."

MAIL HOLD-UP

By Our Auckland Correspondent

New Zealand dockers, whose week-long strike over manning levels has crippled container terminals, are expected to return on Monday, but there is little hope that all the overseas mail affected, much of it from Britain, will be delivered for Christmas.

800pc INFLATION

Prices rose by an average 19.5 per cent in Israel last month despite a wage-and-price freeze, keeping annual inflation at around 800 per cent, the Central Bureau of Statistics said in Jerusalem yesterday.

RECTOR IN CAR CASE QUILTS

By Our Churches Correspondent

The Rev. Peter Renouf, placed on probation for two years at Sussex Crown Court last month after pleading guilty to damaging a woman's car with intent to endanger life, has resigned from his living as rector of St Peter's, Farborough, Hampshire.

In a statement, the Bishop of Guildford, the Rt Rev. Michael Adie, said: "It is clear that Peter Renouf needs a period of time free from heavy responsibility so that he may benefit from his psychiatric treatment. I have, therefore, accepted his immediate resignation from St Peter's on medical grounds."

MAN DIES IN FIRE

A pensioner died in a fire at his home yesterday. Mr Stanley Turner, 73, collapsed after falling down the stairs of his terraced cottage in Kildesher, Essex, as he fled from a fire in his bedroom.

Six sacked in closed shop row share £55,000

By JOHN WILLIAMS

SIX employees sacked by Labour-controlled Hull city council for refusing to join a trade union are to share £55,000 compensation awarded by the European Commission for Human Rights, it emerged yesterday.

Their dismissal came after the council introduced a closed shop policy in 1978.

Public sympathy resulted in a 40,000 signature petition on their behalf, and five of the men soon found other jobs.

The sacked men were: PETER ARMSTRONG, 38, of West End, Swanland; RAYMOND LAMONS, of Wellsted Street; THOMAS EATON, of Twyford Close; BRIAN FOSTER, of Langtree Close; BRASOLM, all of Hull, and ALAN WILKINSON, of Main Street, Willerby.

They lost appeals against the sacking which became effective when they did not join a union within a specified time.

But in October, 1980, following the European Commission's ruling in the case of three sacked British Rail workers and the passing of the Employment Act, Mr Philip Hamer, solicitor for the six men, sought either reinstatement or compensation from the city council.

"We're delighted," Mr Hamer said yesterday that the average time for dealing with similar cases by the European Commission was five to seven years.

"We are delighted," he said, "It means that the law can now be changed back to the position it was in 1978 when you could lose your job for not joining a union if you did not want to."

The decision settled beyond doubt that the sacking of the Hull men was also in breach of the convention, he added.

The amount which each of the six men is to receive has yet to be apportioned and depends on salary and length of service. It will take into account lost earnings and pension rights.

The Government has to pay the compensation because they were found to be in breach of Article 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights in allowing the dismissals.

Two Italian intelligence agents said to have been watching at Lugano airport for an Italian wanted on espionage and financial charges have been arrested by Swiss police, and after a formal hearing they are being held pending further inquiries—Reuters.

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Midshires Building Society
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1983	Stock	Price
High Low		
	Bananas	100

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82	2.8	13	127	Albany Wis.	17	+
83	2.8	13	127	Albany Ill.	17	+
84	2.8	13	127	Albany Mo.	17	+
85	2.8	13	127	Albany N. H.	17	+
86	2.8	13	127	Albany N. J.	17	+
87	2.8	13	127	Albany N. Y.	17	+
88	2.8	13	127	Albany Pa.	17	+
89	2.8	13	127	Albany Tenn.	17	+
90	2.8	13	127	Albany Va.	17	+
91	2.8	13	127	Albany W. Va.	17	+
92	2.8	13	127	Albany Wis.	17	+
93	2.8	13	127	Albany Ill.	17	+
94	2.8	13	127	Albany Mo.	17	+
95	2.8	13	127	Albany N. H.	17	+
96	2.8	13	127	Albany N. J.	17	+
97	2.8	13	127	Albany N. Y.	17	+
98	2.8	13	127	Albany Pa.	17	+
99	2.8	13	127	Albany Tenn.	17	+
100	2.8	13	127	Albany Va.	17	+

RECENT ISSUES

Aercon Satellite.....	183	"
Adrian's Announcements.....	183	"
A & P Appliances.....	90	"
Alida Holdings.....	168	"
Breakfast.....	116	"
Trist. Telecom (S&P) Ltd.....	101	"
ITC International.....	140	"
Landover.....	176	"
Leopold's Europe.....	215	-2
Comprehension Fin. Serv.....	86	-3
Craton Lodge.....	185	-1
Kuruman Land Bank (S&P).....	194	"
Extr. 9 & 1986 "A" EEO pd.....	594	"
Fernbrook.....	103	"
Friedland Oil.....	150	"
Gabriel.....	96	"
Harwin Whittier.....	225	+2
Healthcare Services.....	24	+1
Home Rivers.....	42	"

London & Scottish Energy	126	
Imperial	218	+1
Johnson M & C Pref.	140	+1
Kirk-Teknik	118	
Media Technology	178	
Momentum Oil	27	
PSM Int.	188	
Paul Michael Leisure	27	
Penny & Giles	180	+2
Plasman	74	
Racal 7% conv.	124½	
Reax William	22	
Reax Drug Stores	185	+1
Stone Isl.	140	
T & S Financ.	118	+1
TDO Holdings	124	
Wardle Storeys	167	

[illegible]

Korea	HK\$ 9.3200-9.3300
Malaysia	RMps 14.5772
Philippines	Philps 8.3712-8.3738
Singapore	Singps 0.5000-0.5040
Taiwan	Taiwanps 2.0872-2.0878
Thailand	Thai 5.2500-5.2600
U.S.A.	US\$ 2.0872-2.0890
U.K.	£ 2.2270-2.2288
Arab Emirates	Dirham 4.0025-4.005

* Subject to limit.

DOLLAR RATES

	14-12-94	Prev close
Canada	2.8200	2.8150
France	6.1000	5.1093
Germany	2.5058	2.5099
Italy	2.80	2.80
Switzerland	145.50	145.18

EUROCURRENCIES

Rate	1 month	3 month	6 month
91m - 94m	91 - 94	91 - 94	91 - 94

34-35	6 months 64-64
FRANC:	
4-12	1 month 64-64
46-54	6 months 5-94
FORWARD RATES	
forward rates for currencies for one and three months are as follows:	
..... 34-35	6 months 64-64
..... 36-37	6-16 c/m
..... 40-41	0.10-0.18 c/m
..... 42-43	0.20-0.25 c/m
..... 44-45	0.26-0.28 c/m
..... 46-47	0.29-0.31 c/m
..... 48-49	0.32-0.34 c/m
..... 50-51	0.35-0.37 c/m
..... 52-53	0.38-0.40 c/m
..... 54-55	0.41-0.43 c/m
..... 56-57	0.44-0.46 c/m
..... 58-59	0.47-0.49 c/m
..... 60-61	0.50-0.52 c/m
..... 62-63	0.53-0.55 c/m
..... 64-65	0.56-0.58 c/m
..... 66-67	0.59-0.61 c/m
..... 68-69	0.62-0.64 c/m
..... 70-71	0.65-0.67 c/m
..... 72-73	0.68-0.70 c/m
..... 74-75	0.71-0.73 c/m
..... 76-77	0.74-0.76 c/m
..... 78-79	0.77-0.79 c/m
..... 80-81	0.80-0.82 c/m
..... 82-83	0.83-0.85 c/m
..... 84-85	0.86-0.88 c/m
..... 86-87	0.89-0.91 c/m
..... 88-89	0.92-0.94 c/m
..... 90-91	0.95-0.97 c/m
..... 92-93	0.98-1.00 c/m
..... 94-95	1.01-1.03 c/m
..... 96-97	1.04-1.06 c/m
..... 98-99	1.07-1.09 c/m
..... 100-101	1.10-1.12 c/m
..... 102-103	1.13-1.15 c/m
..... 104-105	1.16-1.18 c/m
..... 106-107	1.19-1.21 c/m
..... 108-109	1.22-1.24 c/m
..... 110-111	1.25-1.27 c/m
..... 112-113	1.28-1.30 c/m
..... 114-115	1.31-1.33 c/m
..... 116-117	1.34-1.36 c/m
..... 118-119	1.37-1.39 c/m
..... 120-121	1.40-1.42 c/m
..... 122-123	1.43-1.45 c/m
..... 124-125	1.46-1.48 c/m
..... 126-127	1.49-1.51 c/m
..... 128-129	1.52-1.54 c/m
..... 130-131	1.55-1.57 c/m
..... 132-133	1.58-1.60 c/m
..... 134-135	1.61-1.63 c/m
..... 136-137	1.64-1.66 c/m
..... 138-139	1.67-1.69 c/m
..... 140-141	1.70-1.72 c/m
..... 142-143	1.73-1.75 c/m
..... 144-145	1.76-1.78 c/m
..... 146-147	1.79-1.81 c/m
..... 148-149	1.82-1.84 c/m
..... 150-151	1.85-1.87 c/m
..... 152-153	1.88-1.90 c/m
..... 154-155	1.91-1.93 c/m
..... 156-157	1.94-1.96 c/m
..... 158-159	1.97-1.99 c/m
..... 160-161	2.00-2.02 c/m
..... 162-163	2.03-2.05 c/m
..... 164-165	2.06-2.08 c/m
..... 166-167	2.09-2.11 c/m
..... 168-169	2.12-2.14 c/m
..... 170-171	2.15-2.17 c/m
..... 172-173	2.18-2.20 c/m
..... 174-175	2.21-2.23 c/m
..... 176-177	2.24-2.26 c/m
..... 178-179	2.27-2.29 c/m
..... 180-181	2.30-2.32 c/m
..... 182-183	2.33-2.35 c/m
..... 184-185	2.36-2.38 c/m
..... 186-187	2.39-2.41 c/m
..... 188-189	2.42-2.44 c/m
..... 190-191	2.45-2.47 c/m
..... 192-193	2.48-2.50 c/m
..... 194-195	2.51-2.53 c/m
..... 196-197	2.54-2.56 c/m
..... 198-199	2.57-2.59 c/m
..... 200-201	2.60-2.62 c/m
..... 202-203	2.63-2.65 c/m
..... 204-205	2.66-2.68 c/m
..... 206-207	2.69-2.71 c/m
..... 208-209	2.72-2.74 c/m
..... 210-211	2.75-2.77 c/m
..... 212-213	2.78-2.80 c/m
..... 214-215	2.81-2.83 c/m
..... 216-217	2.84-2.86 c/m
..... 218-219	2.87-2.89 c/m
..... 220-221	2.90-2.92 c/m
..... 222-223	2.93-2.95 c/m
..... 224-225	2.96-2.98 c/m
..... 226-227	2.99-3.01 c/m
..... 228-229	3.02-3.04 c/m
..... 230-231	3.05-3.07 c/m
..... 232-233	3.08-3.10 c/m
..... 234-235	3.11-3.13 c/m
..... 236-237	3.14-3.16 c/m
..... 238-239	3.17-3.19 c/m
..... 240-241	

GOLD PRICE

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AUTOMATIC DEPOSITS:			
with 9%		Seven days 9%	Three months 9%
BILLS:		1 month 9%-9 1/2	
8 1/2%-9 1/2%		6 months 9%-9 1/2	
BILLS:		1 month 9%-9 1/2	
9 1/2%-10%		5 months 10%-10 1/2	
CONG C.Ne.		1 month 9 1/2%-9 3/4	
9 1/2%-9 1/2%		1 year 9 3/4%-9 1/2	
C.D.s.		1 month 5.75-6.00	
8.00-9.00		3 year 10.00-10.25	

FUTURES			
Price	Contract	High	Low
197-29	253	110-15	107-14
107-38	298	108-25	106-23
71-04	211 1/2	75-12	69-15
70-04		72-12	69-23

80-08	2875	95-40-98-04
88-96	184	98-56-98-55
1-1895	102	1-9770-1-1895
0-2240	56	0-5487-0-2248
0-8948	2	5-4015-0-5919
	2	0-4189-0-4087
1919-95	370	120-50-97-50
83-20	91	120-75-112-00

face value of \$95,000
 face value of \$100,000
 cash settlement
 of \$25,000. Don \$35,000
 \$125 per index point.

OPTIONS

JULY	JAN.	APR.	JULY
82	7	18	20
27	85	48	47
27	17	18	17
60	40	15	23
40	28	47	57
12	8	7	18
8	10	18	9
14	2	22	12
36	20	16	22
90	25	30	17
40	1	7	23
60	3	18	9
13	22	23	20
19	2	4	6
11	6	17	12
82	6	20	20
53	38	48	48
22	2	5	8
31	6	11	16

LINE	DEC.	MAR.	JUNE
40	5	11	17
50	15	23	30
60	2	10	20
70	8	18	28
80	20	28	36

23	14	20	23
23	2	11	15
17		26	29
20	12	8	9
24	4	13	10
14	2	8	12
16	6	15	14
65	5	27	40
85	15	58	95

TOTAL CONTRACTS 12,882

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS

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STOCK EXCHANGE Equities scale the peaks

INSTITUTIONAL investors yesterday returned to stock markets with a vengeance, encouraged by the possibility that the scope for tax cuts in the Budget may rise to 25 billion.

Fund managers, keen to reduce their liquidity before the calendar year end, naturally directed their attention to consumer issues.

Breweries, stores and foods were the focus. The sudden upsurge in demand for shares in the market extremely short of stock and was sufficient to send the main indices into uncharted waters.

Closing quotes were a shade below the day's best levels but the "50" index settled 7.8 points up at a peak of 335.4, after 330.1, while the "100" index closed 8.1 better at 1204.8, after 1207.9.

Interest in the gilt-edged market was extremely low with short-dated stocks closing with falls of 2½ or 3½. Index-linked issues, too, were out of favour and gave up the previous day's gains of 1½.

In the blue chip range, Imperial Chemical Industries continued to attract support in the wake of the acquisition of the American Beatrice Companies' chemical division; the shares touched 724½ in fairly hectic trading before closing 24 higher at 712½. B & C hardened 3 to 280½ in sympathy, while Grand Metropolitan were wanted ahead of next Thursday's results and put on 10 to 515½.

Takeover fever was alive and well with Powell Duffryn surging 80 to 420½, after 421½, following the unwelcome bid from Hanson Trust, unchanged at 289½. Joseph Causton climbed 29 to 103½ on the possible merger with Norton Opax. 5 better at 148½, but Cecil Goss were sold down to 165½ prior to closing 10 lower at 180½ on news that the bid talks were off.

Stores soar

Stores showed double figure gains with Dixons outstanding at 507½, an improvement of 30. Home Charm jumped to 272½ prior to settling 21 ahead at 266½, while British Home Stores put on 14 to 276½.

The insurance sector was again at fever pitch awaiting developments in connection with Hambro Life. Charterhouse J Rothschild, which holds 24.9 p.c. of Hambro Life, were supported to 100½, while among life issues, Sun were outstanding and jumped 22 to 759½.

On the unlisted securities market, Pineapple Dance Studios edged up 2 to 70½ following preliminary results, while Powerline rose 10 to 255½ in response to the Newtech communications acquisition. Body Shop came in for some lively trading and closed 45 up at 470½ after favourable Press comment.

Speculative demand prompted a more modest rise of 3 to 25½ in Peek Holdings, while the broker's circular provided the impetus to Coalite, 6 better at 215½. Related response to the acquisition news and profits forecast saw British Waddington, in the wake of the BPPC bid failure, were sold down to 435½ before a partial recovery left the final quote 10 off at 455½.

Seasonal influences underpinned the market in Bernard Matthews, 3 firmer at 257½, but Unigate met light offerings and eased 4 to 147½, following comment relating to the disappointing half-yearly results. Reckitt & Coleman were wanted and moved up 7 to 575½ on the results of the Australian subsidiary.

A resurgence of institutional support lifted British Telecom through the £1 barrier to close 3 ahead at 101½, while sympathy gains of 6 were seen in Cable & Wireless, at 438½.

World Markets

AMSTERDAM 179.10 - 0.40
BRUSSELS 157.71 - 0.51
FRANKFURT 1,077.60 - 6.90
HONGKONG 1,142.09 + 15.60
LONDON 1,175.91 + 7.07
PARIS 180.70 - 0.20
SYDNEY 716.70 + 2.30
TOKYO 17,419.15 + 79.10
ZURICH 318.30 - 0.50

FT-ACTUARIES INDICES

All-share 578.55 (+4.37)
500 634.14 (+5.36)
Industrial Group 594.98 (+7.24)

Powell Duffryn rejects £151m Hanson offer

By JOHN RUDOLFSKY

THE ever-acquisitive Hanson Trust yesterday launched a £151 million bid for Powell Duffryn, itself an industrial conglomerate whose latest results were hit by the miners' strike.

Lord Sandon, chairman of Powell Duffryn and a deputy chairman of National Westminster quickly dubbed the offer "unwelcome and clearly inadequate."

He said the board was unanimous in rejecting the offer and the market had already given its verdict of the bid. He urged shareholders to take no action.

Hanson Trust is offering an all-share deal. It is bidding four of its own shares for every three Powell Duffryn shares, which makes the offer worth 304½ a share. But Powell Duffryn shares shot up 80p to 420p on the news with stock market speculators immediately concluding Hanson Trust will be forced to pay a little more to win.

Hanson has held a modest stake in its new target for 18 months. It owns 5.7 p.c. at the moment although earlier in the year its holding was 4.6 p.c. Lord Hanson put in a request to meet his opposite number after making his takeover move. He said yesterday: "Our reason for acting swiftly is the recent speculative increase in Powell Duffryn's share price."

In fact although the shares jumped 15p on Thursday, Hanson Trust has been tipped a likely bidder. Powell Duffryn even took the precaution earlier in the summer of swapping its brokers from Hoare Govett, who also act for Hanson Trust to Rowe & Pitman.

Why did Hanson choose

Powell Duffryn? Director Martin Taylor stuck to the now familiar Hanson Trust line. "We think our own cash we can improve Powell Duffryn's profitability," Mr Taylor admitted there is no synergy but agreed Hanson's tried and trusted management techniques could raise the return on assets.

Powell Duffryn's recent interim results saw profits fall mainly as the group's shipping interests swung into losses. Shipping coal around the east coast has been badly hit by the coal strike.

The bulk oil and chemicals storage operations around the world have also slipped recently. On the other hand its range of engineering interests have been doing particularly well.

Hanson Trust is of course no stranger to the large world of takeover bids and this deal, even though it is an all-share offer, raises Hanson's equity less than 10 p.c.

This year alone Hanson Trust paid out £250 million for London Brick and £380 million for US Industries. It also took over the US retail conglomerate last year for £260 million and paid 100 million for the "Ever Ready" Berc Group the year before.

These deals culminated in Hanson earlier this month announcing a takeover of a tax-free company, raising its share price to £169 million from £1 million in the year to the end of September.

Although the absorption of Powell Duffryn into its empire would not raise the monopoly powers of Hanson Trust in any of its markets, the sheer size and regularity of its acquisitions may just make this deal the one the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is asked to investigate.

Charter gets £38m from Minorco sale

By TOM KYTE

CHARTER Consolidated's search for cash continues with the placing of over half of the company's stake in Mineral Resources Corporation (Minorco) for an aggregate consideration of £38 million.

Charter has sold seven million shares in Minorco at around 55p each, with just under half of the placing — 3.5 million shares — taken up by Anglo American Corporation which, with de Beers, already has a controlling interest in Minorco.

The balance of the shares was sold through the market but it appears that de Beers has taken no further interest in the company.

Proceeds will reduce borrowings, provide working capital and finance new investment but the placing comes at a time when Charter has a serious need to generate new funds.

At the end of last year net borrowings amounted to just over £20 million with short term debt and cash holdings virtually cancelling each other out.

But since the year-end in March the company has already pumped more than £16 million into stockholders Rowe Pitman and is now faced with the prospect of major cash injections into controlled associate Johnson Matthey and the 67 p.c. associate Cape Industries.

Johnson Matthey is expected to require £15 million cash to underwrite its proposed share issue while Cape is expected to take a further £15 million as it issues shares in an attempt to survive litigation.

After the placing Charter will hold 5.7 p.c. of Minorco and intends to retain this. However, there was a strong feeling in the stock market yesterday that Charter would have placed its whole Minorco stake if market conditions had been suitable.

Charter is expected to make further investments including its remaining Minorco stake, valued at £36 million, and its holding in Malaysian Tin Dredging, valued at £30 million.

Spot oil prices edge higher

OIL PRICES improved slightly in this spot market trading yesterday but there was little comfort for ministers from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries ahead of their next half-yearly meeting in Geneva on Wednesday.

Brent oil, the North Sea marker, edged above the \$27 a barrel mark for delivery next month but was being quoted at \$26.90 for shipment in February, a discount of \$1.75 on the official price of \$28.65.

Opec ministers will consider proposals to increase the price of heavy oil which has been selling at a premium, but Saudi Arabia is resisting pressure to cut the \$29 a barrel light oil which has been at a discount.

Society receipts hit by Telecom

BUILDING society receipts fell to their second-lowest level for 18 months in November as savers switched funds into the British Telecom share issue. New deposits at £4.33 million were the second highest ever, but a near record level of only £583 million compared with October's £1,125 million.

The outlook to Telecom was worse than the societies had expected, but they are now hoping investors will this week repay cheques returned from the over-subscribed issue.

Despite the poor cash inflow last month, societies are unconcerned. They knew that Telecom's effect would be over by the end of the month, and mortgage demand is falling.

Felixstowe placing to raise £20m

By JOHN PETTY

A "BACKDOOR" way for the public to get direct investment in Felixstowe, Britain's most successful port, was announced yesterday by European Ferries as a £20 million placing of preference shares to Felixstowe Dock and Railway Company.

Brokers Fielding Newsom-Smith is placing the 200,000 preference units at £101 each with institutions but they are expected to start trading on the Stock Exchange next Wednesday.

European Ferries owns 89.89 p.c. of Felixstowe Dock and Railway, with workers holding many of the other shares.

"The money will help finance development of Trinity container terminal to be completed in mid-1986," said Euroferries. "The units each comprise 100 6.5 p.c. cumulative redeemable preference shares, 2000-2010, of £1 each (payable as to 50p per share on application and the balance next June 28) and one cumulative redeemable participating preference share, 2000-2010, of £1, payable in full on application."

The participating shares will be entitled to 5 p.c. of the Felixstowe pre-tax profits in each year prior to 1980. After that it will be fixed as the average in the best two out of the three years 1988-89.

Felixstowe is due to redeem £6.5 million of existing preference stock and has total funding requirements of up to £50 million. The £30 million balance will come from drawings of up to £20 million via the European Investment Bank and £10 million via Lloyds Bank.

The port is Britain's biggest container centre with three existing terminals and a fourth of capacity of 500,000 boxes a year and a queue of would-be users. Trinity will boost capacity by 250,000 containers a year. It will cost £40 million and create 320 new jobs.

Directors yesterday forecast that 1984 profits from ordinary activities of the port would be "not less than £8.2 million." They added that a gross yield of 12.1 p.c. would have been received on the preference units if they had been fully paid for 1984.

SATURDAY COMMENT

THE tragedy of Bhopal sheds a lurid light on the relationships between multinational companies and the industrial West and the far away Third World countries in which they operate. Curiously enough, both the Soviet news agency Tass and the American lawyers who have gone to India to canvass for clients to make compensation claims have the same view of what is involved.

Tass said the disaster was "the logical consequence of the general policy pursued by multinational corporations which market low-quality products and outdated technology in developing countries."

One of the American lawyers used virtually the same language: "We feel American technology created this disaster. Now let them stand up in the courts for the damage they caused."

This analysis, however, has very limited validity. It was a fair description of the behaviour of some international companies, European as well as American, up to the mid 1980s or even the early 1970s. But since then almost every developing country (including India) has imposed tight restrictions on the activities of foreign companies. Bhopal illustrates that this new relationship is also unsatisfactory.

Explanations for the appalling loss of life have to be sought in the equipment and specification of the plant itself, in the competence of the staff and in the precautions, if any, that were taken to protect the local population from mishaps.

On the first of these questions, Union Carbide has changed its tune. To begin with the Bhopal plant was identical to its big operation in

Grim Bhopal lessons for the multinationals

West Virginia making the same product.

Thus the chairman, Warren Anderson, said in India: "Somebody has to say that our safety standards in the United States are identical to those in India, or Brazil, or some place else... same equipment, same design, same everything." From this you would draw the conclusion that the Indian company was fully integrated into Union Carbide's worldwide activities.

'Affiliate'

But a few days later, the company's comments took on quite a different tone. Now the emphasis was on the fact that Union Carbide owned only a bare majority of the Indian company's shares—50.9 p.c. It was referred to as an "affiliate" rather than as a subsidiary, which is its legal status. Now it was stressed that the Indian unit had been responsible for the detailed design of the Bhopal plant and selection of equipment. In any case, Union Carbide had no hand in the disaster. This time Bhopal was described as if it was merely a licensee of an American process.

No doubt legal advice led to this more muted treatment. But it also points to a dangerous ambiguity. Who really was in charge?

The Indian government, like many others around the world, makes sure that its citizens have a large share in the running of multinational businesses within their territory. It is only because Union Carbide had been operating in India for 50 years, or so, that it was allowed to retain legal control and then only by a narrow margin. Moreover, the government will not allow foreign nationals to work permanently in India. Bhopal was thus entirely run and staffed by Indians. Indian personnel went to the United States for lengthy training courses and Americans could spend short periods in Bhopal. But Bhopal is essentially an Indian operation.

Shared task

As for the precautions that should have been taken to protect the local population, they ought surely to have been a joint responsibility shared between the company and the local authorities.

Union Carbide itself well knew what to do, for in West Virginia local residents are warned of possible dangers, told to watch out for various flashing light alarms and whistles and their local police have an evacuation plan.

In Bhopal the Indian authorities had likewise been put on notice that the plant was dangerous. It is widely reported that the local trades unions had organised protests. Two years ago, according to one local newspaper account, the union pasted up posters stating the factory was making gas but did not use safety measures.

Even a cursory examination, then, strongly suggests that the Bhopal disaster has no simple cause. Union Carbide itself, the Indian management, the local authorities, all these parties in some way failed. And perhaps the underlying reason is that multinational companies and their host countries have got themselves into a situation in which neither side feels fully responsible.

For the time being, dislike of foreign companies will have been magnified. And those within India and elsewhere who hate and fear modern technology will feel reinforced in their beliefs. But if Bhopal stimulates a reappraisal of the relationship between Western capital and Third World development, then something worthwhile will have been salvaged.

There are indeed other forces pressing in the same direction. The Third World debt crisis taught the foolishness of repelling risk capital in favour of bank credit. The plight of sub-Saharan Africa emphasises the need for Western expertise. In this context comes Bhopal.

The City Pages on Monday

IN THE City Pages on Monday, James Williams examines the conflicting arguments over import controls on textiles and clothing as the time for renegotiation of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement approaches.

Last Thursday the Chancellor promised not to tax lump sums paid out to pensioners for service already earned. Clifford German looks at this and the wider debate on taxing pension funds.

Formerly British Bobby Inman, a retired United States admiral and a former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, tells Lauren Chambliss how he rounded up 11 of America's fiercest scientists in high technology to set up a joint research project.

Colin Campbell, reporting from Western Australia, puts on his hard hat, switches on his scribbler and tells us about faraway places like Bamboo Creek, "where gold is everywhere."

An almost forgotten takeover bid rolls to its conclusion next week. In the Questor column David Brewster examines its chance of success.

There is already a shortage of staff to program, operate and design computers, and to help install them in companies. Michael Beckett looks at the implications.

Process Systems goes to ballot

THE OFFER for sale of 23.8 p.c. of Process Systems, the North Carolina-based specialist computer software group, has gone well. The offer of 16 million shares at 82p each was more than 12 times oversubscribed and attracted just under £200 million.

Applications for 100 to 500 shares ballot for 100 shares. There are ballots too for all other applications up to and including 10,000 shares on the basis of 600 to 1,000 a ballot for 200 shares, 1,500 to 5,000 for 350 shares, and 6,000 to 10,000 for 700 shares. Those seeking 15,000 and above will get around 7.4 p.c. of shares applied for.

Letters of acceptance are expected to be posted on Wednesday, and dealing will start on Thursday.

Gold price at 29-month low

IN the London bullion market yesterday the price of gold fell to close at \$322.50 an ounce, a fall of \$2.75 and the lowest level since early 1982.

Dealers said that selling was fairly heavy with the movement sparked off by a large selling order from Hongkong which triggered stop-loss selling both in the Far East and Europe.

U.S. RATES

Federal funds — 8½ p.c. (8½ p.c.)
Treasury 3 month bills — 8.8-8.9 (8.8-8.9)
Long bonds — \$101.20 (\$100.29)
Yield — 11.56 (11.57)

U.S. COMMODITIES

GOLD (Comex) Dec. 322.50
Silver (Comex) Dec. 33.50
Copper (Comex) Dec. 33.50
Platinum (Comex) Dec. 550.00
Nickel (Comex) Dec. 100.00
Zinc (Comex) Dec. 100.00
Lead (Comex) Dec. 100.00
Aluminum (Comex) Dec. 100.00
Tin (Comex) Dec. 100.00
Wheat (CBOT) Dec. 3.25
Corn (CBOT) Dec. 2.25
Soybeans (CBOT) Dec. 4.25
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10-10-1964

FAMILY MONEY-GO-ROUND

EVERYONE with a financial service to offer seems to be getting in on the act. Unit trusts, building societies, stock exchanges, returned cheques, and licensed dealers offer to sell what shares you have without charging you the commission that you would pay a stockbroker.

So it is that simple, or is there a snag? Surely no one—particularly a licensed share dealer—does nothing for nothing?

Indeed, nothing is free. The dealers pay their administrative costs by quoting you a different price for your Telecom shares than they would get elsewhere.

Newspapers quote a "mid-price" for shares, but in fact, there is a slightly higher price at which you would have to buy, and a slightly lower price at which you could sell; the difference covers the brokers' or dealers' costs and profits.

And, as our table shows, the difference between offer and bid prices varies between 3p

per Telecom share at three licensed dealers to just 1p at all the stockbrokers we contacted. Prices were taken at 4 p.m. last night.

The stockbrokers' prices are clearly better than most licensed dealers', with only one of the five offering to sell shares at below the brokers' 90p, and none offering to buy at such a generous price as the 99p. And for the small investor, of course, it is selling which is currently the most likely transaction sought.

While shares are still not registered, there is no stamp duty on purchases. When the shares are registered later next year, duty will add 1 p.p. to the cost of buying through either dealers or stockbrokers, just as for other shares.

The only other cost of using a licensed dealer is the contract

stamp of up to 50p on the whole deal. This applies to deals through brokers too, but they also charge their commissions.

Especially for the Telecom, a group of London and provincial brokers (including Quilter Goodson and Bristol's Stock Beech) who were among those quoting the 1p dealing spread last night have agreed to charge special rates to small investors until December 1989.

On sales with a value up to £300 that is, those who asked for 200 shares) this special commission is 15, and on sales of up to £424 (that is, 400 shares, at the moment) it is 27. For anyone wanting to buy the special rates are 15 per transaction valued up to £300 and 27 on deals of up to £424. All these charges are subject to 15 p.p. V.A.T. however.

For larger transactions including sales by anyone allocated 800 shares, brokers will normally charge their usual commission of 1.65 p.p. of the transaction value, plus 15 p.p. V.A.T. on that fee. That gives the buying and selling costs in the final two columns of the table's last line.

So at last night's share prices, one of the licensed dealers, Hill Woolgar, was the cheapest

place to buy 400 shares, with the stockbrokers a few pence cheaper than most other dealers and Ravendale Securities the most expensive.

To buy 800 shares, the stockbrokers were much more expensive since they charge conventional commissions. Their price was nearly £25 higher than the best dealer.

And selling through a broker last night would have given the worst value to someone with 400 shares and give or take a few pennies, the worst deal on 800 shares.

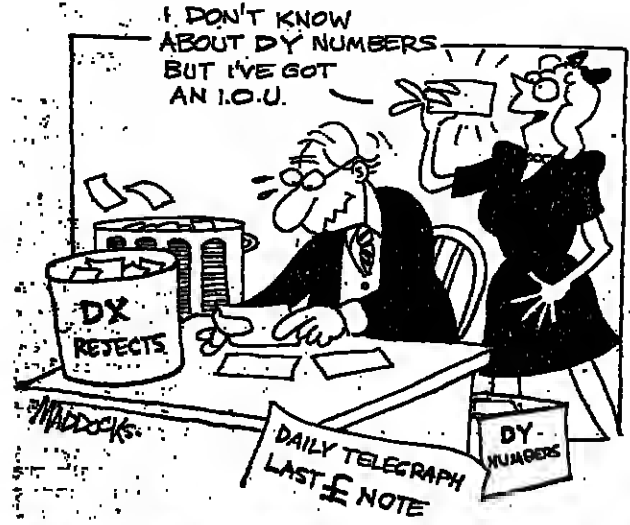
So despite the licensed dealers' worse prices, they can be good value and their offer of no commission can be worthwhile taking up.

ON OTHER PAGES: Taxation P18;
Buy-out P19; Investing in wine P20;
Saver's choice, Unit trust prices P21

BEST DEALS FOR BRITISH TELECOM

Where are the British Telecom bargains?

Dealer	Offer	Bid	Buying 400 shares	Sale value	Buying 800 shares	Sale value
Affor Inv	101 p	98 p	£404	£394	£808	£788
Cleveland Secs	101 p	98 p	£404	£392	£808	£784
Harvard Secs	101 p	98 p	£404	£392	£808	£784
Hill Woolgar	99 p	97 p	£396	£386	£792	£780
Ravendale Secs	102 p	99 p	£408	£396	£816	£792
Stockbrokers	100 p	99 p	£400	£390	£800	£780



PURSUIT OF THE LAST POUND

READERS have certainly made sure that the prize for the last Pound Note in England is wrested from the DAILY TELEGRAPH employee who last week came up at the last-minute with a DX 58 numbered note.

Monday's postbag soon brought a collection of DX 58s, mainly from the West Midlands, and the North East, and by midweek a number of Wolverhampton readers had ensured that DX 58s were in the bag.

And so the highest number has kept progressing all week. It was a Birmingham reader who brought us into the DX 70s and a Lancashire competitor who sent us the first DX 80.

As soon as the DX 84 note numbers started coming in—mainly from Lancashire and the West Midlands—we could be fairly certain that the competition would move on to a new serial letter.

There are 84 million notes printed with each combination of letters, so the DX 84 series was the final batch of those notes, and the Burton-on-Trent reader who brought us DX 84 928533 has one of the last. But it was Southern readers who then started coming up with DX notes: until then the vast majority of entries had been coming from north of Watford.

And yesterday, in came the number shown here from a reader in Ruislip in Middlesex. Our competition is to find

STUDENTS' CASHFLOW

THE banks and grants look after students in term time, but what if finance runs out when they return home for Christmas?

The student should carefully monitor finances. A bank manager is far more likely to be impressed by those who anticipate a future need than by those who only act when the kitty is empty.

Individuals who unknowingly overdraw their accounts, or who realise they are broke, but still write cheques, are going to give a good impression.

If the student had drawn up a budget on a weekly basis, until the end of term and realistically borne in mind that end of term activities can result in a higher than usual expenditure he is in a better position to ask for an overdraft.

If there is a large shortfall, then clearly economies will have to be made. Even if the budget does not balance by a relatively small amount, think carefully before borrowing funds. If money is expected from a holiday job, or as a Christmas gift, it may be considered worthwhile to anticipate future "income."

Before borrowing consider two important points:

- The money has to be repaid.
- If taken from a commercial organisation, a charge will be made.

The most convenient source of borrowing is to draw cash on a credit card. However, it is also the most expensive method. Interest will be charged from the day the advance is taken. There is no "interest free period" compared with paying for goods or services with a credit card.

A cheaper method is by way of overdraft. Most banks offer students' competitive terms—generally 1 p.p. above their base rate (currently about 10 p.p.). If "cheap" overdrafts are not available, the interest charged should still be less than a credit card cash advance.

However, an overdraft may result in the borrower incurring more than just interest charges.

Only Midland and NatWest give students free banking if they are in debit or credit. Barclays, Lloyds, Midland and the TSB will not charge for the use of a

BANKING

Andrew Moore gives some advice to students on coping with their finances over the Christmas holiday.

Those who opt for the overdraft alternative, must not exceed the agreed overdraft limit. Otherwise they will fall into the charges trap. Remember that the banks do not advise when the interest will be deducted from the account, so it is best not to go too close to the agreed limit. For the application of the interest could also result in the criteria for free banking being broken.

The careful use of a credit card for buying for goods or

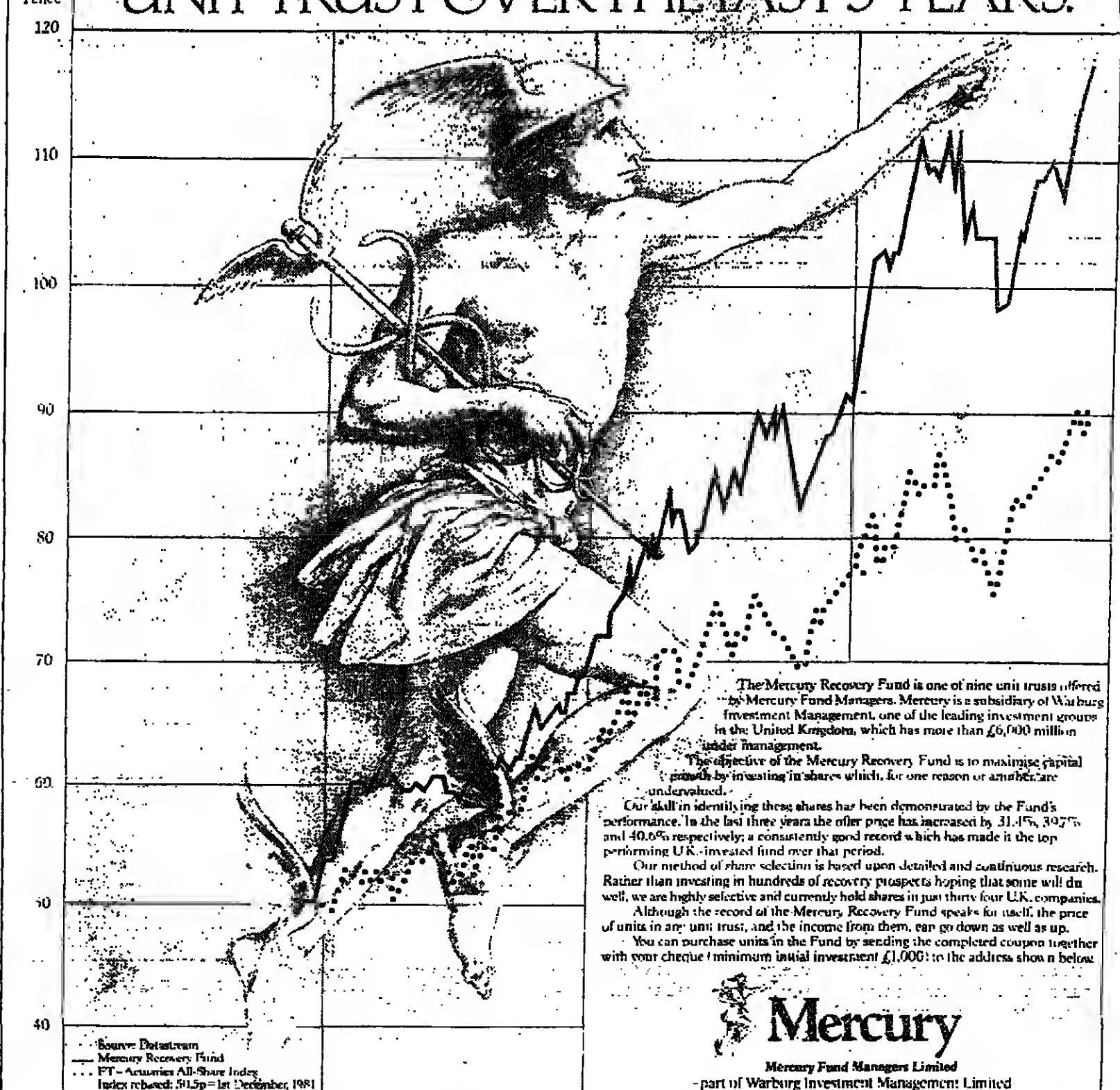
services, can give quite generous interest-free periods of credit. Remember that in today's "plastic" world, even groceries can be bought by card.

One final tip for those who take a credit card cash advance. Interest is charged from the day the money is taken. Payments to the account are applied first to the interest shown on the current and any previous statements—then to cash advances.

So, pay into the card account as soon as funds are available. Do not wait for a statement. Just go along with the card to any branch of the bank on which the card is issued and ask for the money to be forwarded to the credit card company. The cashier will complete the simple formalities.

Writing a cheque is easy—but to take advantage of the banking system is complex. However, with a little thought, pounds can be saved.

THE BEST PERFORMING UK-INVESTED UNIT TRUST OVER THE PAST 3 YEARS*



The Mercury Recovery Fund is one of nine unit trusts offered by Mercury Fund Managers. Mercury is a subsidiary of Warburg Investment Management, one of the leading investment groups in the United Kingdom, which has more than £6,000 million in assets under management.

The objective of the Mercury Recovery Fund is to maximise capital growth by investing in shares which, for one reason or another, are undervalued.

Our skill in identifying these shares has been demonstrated by the Fund's performance. In the last three years the offer price has increased by 31.4%, 39.7% and 40.0% respectively, a consistently good record which has made it the top performing UK-invested fund over that period.

Our method of share selection is based upon detailed and continuous research. Rather than investing in hundreds of recovery prospects hoping that some will do well, we are highly selective and currently hold shares in just thirty four UK companies.

Although the record of the Mercury Recovery Fund speaks for itself, the price of units in any unit trust, and the income from them, can go down as well as up.

You can purchase units in the Fund by sending the completed coupon together with your cheque for minimum initial investment (£1,000) to the address shown below.

Mercury
Mercury Fund Managers Limited
part of Warburg Investment Management Limited

If you're looking for above average income from Equities with Prospects of capital growth...

M.L.A. Income Trust—backed by proven investment management expertise

M.L.A. Income Trust is managed by the same successful investment team which has been responsible for the continued high performance record of M.L.A. Unit Trust and M.L.A. International Trust. Since its launch in June 1978, M.L.A. Income Trust has seen its savings grow by an average of 33% per year, including re-invested income—a substantial achievement regularly featured in the financial press.

On its first anniversary 'M.L.A. International' had achieved a growth in unit values of over 34% and at the end of its first year in April 1984 it had appeared in the accepted performance tables of such publications as 'Money Management' and 'Investors Chronicle' as one of the top three funds in its sector. M.L.A. Income Trust has been launched by this experienced management team to provide investors with the opportunity of above average yield, plus prospects for growth in dividends and capital value in the future. When you consider the past record of

M.L.A. Income Trust, dividend growth is significant—the initial advertised annual distribution was 1.25p per unit in 1978 and currently the annual distribution is in excess of 4.50p per unit.

The Aim of the Fund Managers

The aim of the Managers of M.L.A. Income Trust will be to obtain an increasing income through the active management of an equity portfolio. To achieve this, investment will be mainly in ordinary shares of U.K. companies whose income yields are above average and which have prospects of further growth in income and capital.

Income will be distributed, net of income tax at the basic rate, four times a year on 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December.

Price and Yield of M.L.A. Income Trust as at 12.12.84: Offer price 28.30p; Yield 5.30%

VAT will be deducted from income and/or capital in most of the cases of the Managers. Distributions of income will be made quarterly, starting on 31st March 1985.

The fund will be valued daily and the price quoted in the national press. Units will be dealt in daily. Any orders received will be given effect at the price ruling on the date of receipt of instructions. Contract Notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within six weeks of payment. Units will be bought back at not less than the bid price calculated in accordance with the formula approved by the Department of Trade and Industry. A cheque in settlement will normally be sent within seven working days of receipt of the Manager's order for the redemption unit certificate. Unit trusts are not subject to capital gains tax. Moreover, unitholders will not pay any tax unless their total dividend gains in any tax year exceed £5,000.

M.L.A. INCOME TRUST Application Form

To: M.L.A. Unit Trust Management Ltd.,
Freemont, Westminister, SW1H 9BR
01 222 0371

I/We wish to buy M.L.A. Income Units to the value of £

I/We declare that I/we are over 18.
Solely for my/our own use.

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss/Title)

Address

Signature(s)

(Send application form with cheque and attach address separately)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The minimum initial investment in Mercury Recovery Fund is £1,000. Subsequent movements may be made in amounts of at least £100.

Units may be purchased for cash, or on a bid price calculated daily. Prices will be published daily in the Financial Times and the Daily Telegraph but without responsibility for any error in publication or for non-publication.

Contract notes will be sent within two days of receipt of application. Units can be redeemed at any time and payment will normally be made within seven days of receipt of the redemption certificate.

Management Charges: an initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of units. The annual management charge is 1% plus VAT of the value of the Fund, which is charged monthly against income and a 1.5% unit account when calculating the price of units. On group three month notes the Managers would be permitted to increase this charge to a maximum of 1% (plus VAT). The Managers are also entitled to a rounding adjustment included in the bid and offer prices at up to 1% or 1.5%, whichever is the less.

Annual accounts will be sent to unitholders and a report on the progress of the Fund, together with a list of current holdings, will be sent to unitholders twice a year.

Income, net of basic rate tax, is distributed to unitholders half yearly on 15th June and 15th December. The Managers also offer accumulation units.

Yield on the portfolio as at 30th November 1984: the estimated gross current yield was 4.18% per annum. However, the level of yield in new primary consideration and may often fall below this figure.

Commission is paid to qualified intermediaries and rates are available on request.

The Managers are Mercury Fund Managers Limited, a subsidiary of Warburg Investment Management Limited and a member of the Unit Trust Association. The Trustee is Williams & Glyn's Bank plc. The Fund is a U.K. Authorised Unit Trust and a "wider-range" investment under the Trustee Investments Act (1961).

To: Mercury Fund Managers Limited, 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS.
Telephone: 01-280 2800. Registered Office, situated in England. No. 1102317.

I/We wish to purchase distribution/accumulation units in Mercury Recovery Fund to the value of £ (minimum initial investment £1,000) at the offer price ruling on receipt of my/our application.

A cheque made payable to Mercury Fund Managers Limited is enclosed.
I am/We are over 18 years of age.

☐ Please tick this box for further details about Mercury Recovery Fund.

☐ Please tick this box for information about the other Mercury funds.

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss/Title)

Forenames in full

Address

Post Code

(Payments and correspondence will be sent to this address unless you specify otherwise.)

Signature

Date

In the case of joint applications, all must sign on a separate sheet of paper.

This form is not valid unless it is accompanied by the relevant cheque.

Somebody, somewhere is always making money.



With investment markets at work round the world, and round the clock, there is always money to be made.

A fact you can benefit from now, through one of the most exciting - and successful - international investment opportunities of the year.

The Investment Portfolio

It offers you a choice of 12 new funds, covering all the main international stock markets, including the UK, America and Japan, as well as Gilts and Property. You can switch funds twice a year, free. And there's a generous share exchange scheme.

Aside from wide choice and flexibility, it has one advantage no other investment can offer.

The investment strength of both Fidelity International, voted Unit Trust Managers of 1983 by the influential financial magazine Money Management, and Clerical Medical, one of the UK's leading life assurance companies.

Fidelity is particularly well known for its range of highly successful overseas unit trusts. Its Japan Trust, for example, is the best performing of all six hundred plus unit trusts over the past one and two years*.

While Clerical Medical has specialist expertise particularly in UK equities, fixed interest and property. Its with-profits policies have appeared in Money Management Top Ten tables for past performance no fewer than 32 times, in the past 15 years.

The two companies' network of offices covers

Boston, New York, San Francisco, London, Tokyo and Hong Kong, with investment decisions made on the spot by highly-rated professionals who, in almost every case, are local nationals.

Who better to spot the best opportunities?

The Investment Portfolio attracted £29m at outset from UK investors. A measure of its wide-ranging appeal and, quite possibly, a record for any unit-linked investment. Minimum investment is £2,500.

Make sure you don't miss out on the Investment Portfolio's worldwide opportunities; contact your insurance/financial adviser. If you prefer, talk to Geoffrey Jones in Bristol, Tel: (0272) 290566 during weekday office hours, or post the freepost coupon below.

*To 31 November 1984, after the offer price, income reinvested (Source: Money Management, November).

NEW! - The Investment Portfolio

To: Geoffrey Jones, Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society, FREEPOST (no stamp required), Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0AB.

Please send me further details of the Investment Portfolio

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone Number (Home) _____ (Business) _____

My insurance/financial adviser is _____

For information on the Share Exchange Scheme, please tick ☐



Clerical Medical
Investments

FAMILY MONEY-GO-ROUND



TAXMEN IN THE BANK

TAXATION

Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey explain the pros and cons of taxing bank interest at source which starts next April.

bank account it is open to the Revenue to treat you as if you had opened or closed a new source.

Now, however, bank deposit interest for individuals will change over to a new system along the same lines as building society interest. This involves two important changes. Banks will pay taxes to the Inland Revenue at the so-called "composite" rate of 25.5 p.c. The investors will be treated as if they had received their interest net of Basic Rate tax at 30 p.c. They will be taxed as if they had received gross interest based on 10.7 times the net interest, for purposes of calculating higher rate tax and entitlement to any age relief.

The composite rate scheme will cover deposits made by individuals, partnerships of individuals, unincorporated businesses, nominees for individuals and trusts where all the income beneficiaries are individuals—but not accumulation and discretionary trusts. Non-resident individuals can claim exemption. So such com-

panies and charities are not included in the scheme. The other significant change that has received substantial publicity, is that tax will no longer be chargeable on the previous year's basis. Interest received in 1985-86 will be taxed in 1985-86 — by deduction for the basic rate—and, if it applies, for the higher rates.

Basically bank deposit accounts held by individuals will come into the scheme. Individuals who want to avoid the new net interest scheme will still be able to invest into the National Savings bank or they could even put their money abroad in foreign banks or institutions. There are special rules to cover the change over at the end of this tax year. The rules cover all bank accounts that change over to the new composite rate system at the end of the tax year. These sources will be regarded as if they had ceased on April 5, 1985. However, the normal closing year rules about ceasing have been suspended and the taxpayer should not act on interest received.

INTEREST on local authority loans is paid after deduction of tax at the basic rate, though it can then be reclaimed by the non-taxpayer; after April 1986, however, all individuals who have bought these investments after November 19, 1984 will suffer the deduction of composite rate tax at source, with no possibility for non-taxpayers to reclaim the tax paid on their behalf.

Most taxpayers will find it advantageous to have the special provisions apply to their deposit interest. So most investors should make sure they do not inadvertently close down or very substantially reduce their deposit accounts before the end of the tax year, or the normal cessation rules will apply and your 1985-86 interest will become taxable.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX

The Retail Price Index for November was 358.8 (Jan 15, 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 0.3 p.c. on October and an increase of 4.9 p.c. over one year. Repurchases of index-linked National Savings Certificates in January 1985 will be based on the new index figure of 358.8. Repayment value during January 1985 of a £100 index-linked certificate purchased in:

June 1975	£296.53	September 1982	£116.21
September 1975	£276.63	December 1982	£115.26
December 1975	£268.94	March 1983	£114.12
March 1976	£259.23	June 1983	£111.24
June 1976	£249.68	September 1983	£109.25
September 1976	£245.22	December 1983	£107.33
December 1976	£234.53		
March 1977	£222.58		
June 1977	£212.69		
September 1977	£208.88		
December 1977	£205.80		
March 1978	£202.59		
June 1978	£197.32		
September 1978	£193.85		
December 1978	£190.87		
March 1979	£185.36		
June 1979	£179.35		
September 1979	£167.93		
December 1979	£163.34		
March 1980	£153.03		
June 1980	£143.93		
September 1980	£140.12		
December 1980	£138.05		
March 1981	£135.37		
June 1981	£128.46		
September 1981	£126.34		
December 1981	£123.60		
March 1982	£120.85		
June 1982	£117.74		

DURABLES INDEX

NOVEMBER'S durable goods index figure is 258.8, a rise on November 1983. Household contents policies due to be renewed this month should have the sum insured increased by about 22.60 per £100 of cover.

Straight indemnity policies, where the amount paid out in the event of a claim is based on the second-hand value of the goods, is not necessarily similarly affected by inflation but householders would be wise to check their cover is sufficient or consider changing to "replacement value" cover.

WHAT'S NEW?

FRIENDLY society contracts have been restricted to £750 insured since the Budget. Fleet Friendly Society has come up with a £1,500 scheme with half the £200 annual premium going into a tax-efficient friendly contract and half into an ordinary life policy. Half the cash is invested in Framlington's Convertible & Gift and its International Growth unit trusts.

STEWART'S Japanese unit trust has doubled in value since its launch two years ago. It would have been better to have bought then, but new investors are now being coaxed in with a 1 p.c. discount.

A UNIT trust charity scheme, allowing the income from unit investments to be covenanted to the charity of your choice, is being launched through stockbrokers Moore Govett.

Hoare's usual portfolio management service, putting sums over £6,000 into their choice of other companies' funds, is being combined with

the Charities Aid Foundation. Income is paid to the foundation, which organises the tax-efficient covenanting to your specified charity.

WITH the Tokyn stock market back to its best levels, C.S. Investments has joined the pack with a Japanese unit trust as its first fund. CS, which already manages £50 million of Japanese stocks for other clients, has set a £1,000 minimum.

TARGET has joined unit trust groups abandoning their usual share swap minimum for those small investors with BT shares.

THE Sunday Telegraph's "Good Wins Guide 1985" gives a whole booklet of the best wines for under £5, listing which supermarkets and off-licences are cheapest at £2.95 from bookshops (or from Telegraph Publications if you add 55p postage) it could pay for itself and make a good present for someone else.

CHELTHENHAM GOLD

CHELTHENHAM GOLD ACCOUNT	APPLIED RATE	EFFECTIVE ANNUAL RATE **	GROSS EQUIVALENT ANNUAL RATE
£1,000 OR MORE INTEREST PAID ANNUALLY	8.25% NET	8.25% NET	11.79% GROSS
CHELTHENHAM GOLD MONTHLY INTEREST ACCOUNT	8.25% NET	8.57% NET	12.24% GROSS
\$5,000 OR MORE INTEREST PAID MONTHLY			

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I/we enclose £_____ to open a Gold by Post Account.
(Minimum £1,000 Maximum £30,000. Joint Account £60,000).
I/we enclose £_____ to open a Gold Monthly Interest Account by Post. (Minimum £5,000. Maximum £30,000. Joint Account £60,000).
☐ Please send more details.

Full Name (s) Mr/Mrs/Miss _____ SIGNATURE

Address _____

Postcode _____ BDT 2

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

CHIEF OFFICE: CHELTENHAM HOUSE, CLARENCE STREET, CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GL50 3JR. TEL: 0242 36161.

MEMBER OF THE BUILDING SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION AND INVESTORS PROTECTION SCHEME. ASSETS EXCEED £2,000 MILLION. OVER 450 BRANCHES AND AGENTS. SEE YELLOW PAGES. *CURRENT RATES WHICH MAY VARY 6.75% NET TO 9.44% GROSS PAID ON BALANCES BELOW £1,000. **EFFECTIVE ANNUAL RATE WHEN INTEREST IS ADDED TO THE ACCOUNT. GROSS EQUIVALENT FOR BASIC RATE TAXPAYERS.

At last an account for the moderately well off, the doing quite nicely, and the absolutely stinking rich.

No other building society or bank account offers such high rates plus a cheque book option.

Chelsea's new Capital Shares account has something for everyone. To start with it has 3 great rates of interest. They start high, move up to higher, and settle at highest.

If you keep between £1,000 and £2,499 in the account your money will earn 8.15% net p.a.

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Any individual can open a Capital Shares account.

Your funds will be earning high interest while you still have access to the money.

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8.65% NET PA	12.36% GROSS PA
8.50% NET PA	12.14% GROSS PA
8.15% NET PA	11.64% GROSS PA

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With a Capital Shares account you also have the option of a cheque book. You can write 50 cheques per year free of charge.

You can pay money into your Capital Shares account at any Chelsea branch or at any high street bank. Obviously, you will find this account easy to operate wherever you live.

Just think of the things which could be paid by cheque from this high interest earning account: rates, telephone, electricity, insurances, annual subscriptions, season tickets are just a few.

To find out more about the Capital Shares account call in at any Chelsea branch, or use the coupon below.

Please send me full details of the new Capital Shares account.

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If you put £10,000 into an ordinary building society share account today and leave it there for 32 years, it should grow to £83,000 — if interest rates remain at today's levels throughout the period. But can you wait that long? What will £83,000 buy by the time you get your hands on it? And will you still be young enough to enjoy the money anyway?

If you complete and return this coupon, we'll tell you about a unit trust investment which has turned £10,000 into more than £83,000 in just seven years. If you really want your money to grow in value, don't you owe it to yourself to find out more about this outstanding investment opportunity?

N.B. It should be remembered that unit values can fall as well as rise. While past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, the skills of the management group involved are clearly well above average.

To: Reed Stenhouse Gibbs, 10 Grosvenor Gardens, FREEPOST, London SW1W 0BR (no stamp required). Telephone: 01-730 8221.

Please contact me with details of your recommended investment for outstanding growth potential.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Tel. No. _____
Present Income £ _____ Date of Birth _____ Tax Rate _____ %
Lump sum amount available for investment £ _____
Amount available for regular savings £ _____ per year/month

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REED STENHOUSE GIBBS

FAMILY MONEY-GO-ROUND

DON'T TRIP UP ON A BUY-OUT

THE pensions industry is getting excited about R-Day and A-Day. R-Day is the one that really counts. This is the date from which rights accrued under their present company pension scheme will be revalued (by a limited amount) if they subsequently leave the company before retirement.

This partial thawing of the "frozen" pension problem is one of the recommendations of the Fowler committee which is set to become law in 1985 — on A-Day. It is a welcome and long-anticipated change — but it's not one that's going to set the frozen pension totally alight.

Employees who have spent some time with their current employer, and who leave in the next year or two, could be disappointed by the very limited effect of the change: pension rights accrued before R-Day will remain as resolutely frozen as ever.

Secondly, the obligation to revalue is limited to 5 p.c. a year or the inflation rate, whichever is the less.

It is in this context that the buy-out bond has been flourishing. The bond, more prosaically known as a "Section 32 contract" (after the 1981 Finance Act) is an insurance company product that has been attracting thousands of "early leavers" and millions of pounds in the last year or two, as people have become aware of how damaging a "frozen" pension can be to their eventual retirement income.

The buy-out bond appears to be a simple answer and one which could suit both the employee's old company and the employee himself.

The company (or rather, its pension scheme) can get shot of the liability to its former employee which might otherwise be stretching anything up to 40 years into the future, while the employee can look forward to an increased pension by investing the transfer value in an insurance company's pension fund.

There is a third alternative that of transferring the value of the preserved pension to the employee's new company: assuming, that is, that he has another job to go to and is not simply being made redundant. But the problem here is that the new company's pension scheme may not offer a particularly good deal.

Once again, the buy-out bond can score — in theory, at least. It will often work in practice as well, but there are growing doubts being expressed about the way a Section 32 contract can be presented to an employee in this situation, which bodes ill for the time when all employees could be faced with the decision of remaining in their company pension scheme or going it alone with a personal portable pension.

There are three major areas of possible confusion and uncertainty which make it difficult for employees to reach a sensible decision.

The first concerns the "frozen" pension. Most companies at present do not revalue preserved pension benefits at all, and the pension paid at retirement may also be fixed. However, a sizeable minority of schemes offer uplifts in both cases, generally on an *ex-gratia* basis rather than as a right.

Around three-quarters of private pension schemes have in fact increased the pension paid after retirement to some extent, and almost a third increase "frozen" pension rights of early leavers.

Obviously, the employee must make sure that the quotation he receives from a buy-out company takes account (where possible) of both these aspects so that he can compare "like with like." If the buy-out route is simply quoting a fixed pension at retirement, it could well appear to be a much better deal on paper as the starting pension will be considerably higher.

Secondly, there is the question of a widow's or widower's pension: again, if the buy-out quotation is on the basis of a single life pension, after retirement, it will appear that much greater.

In the table, we show the sort of difference these factors can make. According to John Lowe of London Life, who produced these figures, it is essential that "matching" quotations are produced, otherwise the employee could be making a decision based on the wrong premises, and taking a greater risk with his pension than he is aware of.

This brings us to the third area of uncertainty: the vexed question of investment performance and the basis on which such quotations are provided.

Diana Wright

Quotation for a 'buy-out' bond		
Assuming a male, aged 44, retiring at 65, has been offered a transfer value of £6,000 from his old company scheme.		
	Assuming no increase in pension	Assuming 5% a year increase in pension
Guaranteed pension including reversionary bonus	£1,913	£1,789
Including terminal bonus	£8,059	£5,738
	£11,246	£8,009
Source: LONDON LIFE		

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The new CS Japan Fund offers a simple, convenient way to invest in an actively managed portfolio of shares carefully selected to give strong capital growth.

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£10,000 invested in £300 now worth £23,134
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£10,000 invested in £950 now worth £23,134
£10,000 invested in £1,000 now worth £23,134

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*at 30% basic rate tax
- Choice of investment strategy through the Hoare Govett Unit Trust Advisory Service.

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Unit Trust Advisory Service
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My Bryan Baughan, Hoare Govett Unit Trust, Heron House, 319-325 High Holborn, London WC1E 3PS

Please send me more details of the Unit Trust Charity Scheme

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Address _____ DT 15/12



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8.00% = 11.43%
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I/we enclose a cheque numbered _____ to be invested in a Seven Day Account at my/our local branch in _____.

Please send me full details and an application card.

Minimum investment £100. Maximum £30,000 per person, £60,000 joint account.

I/we understand that withdrawals can be made at any time, subject to my/our having given 7 days' written notice (no notice or charge provided a balance of £2,500 remains after withdrawal).

I/we understand that the rate may vary. I/we would like the half-yearly interest added to the Seven Day Account ☐ or paid direct to me/us ☐ (tick appropriate box).

Full name(s) Mr/Ms/Miss _____ DT30

Address _____ Postcode _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

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FAMILY MONEY-GO-ROUND



SAVING A BOB OR TWO ON THE DRINKS

SHOPPING around will certainly save money when buying Christmas spirits this year. But you may have to move fast because supplies are being cut off from shops offering whisky, gin and sherry at less than cost price.

Many supermarkets and cash-and-carry outlets select one or two popular items which they sell at rock-bottom prices to attract customers who then spend heavily on other lines, on which there is a good profit.

Leading distillers have become exasperated by the practice, fearing that cheapening the price to unrealistic levels will also cheapen the image of the product and ultimately bring a decline in demand.

So this year they warned wholesale buyers that supplies would be halted if the retail price was too cheap. But by that time some stores were already printing leaflets promising bargain prices until the end of the year.

The outcome is that Distillers Company, for instance, has

stopped deliveries of Gordon's gin to both Asda and International Stores, both of which were selling it at £8.59.

Supplies of Johnnie Walker Red Label whisky were stopped to the Nurdin & Peacock cash-and-carry business and deliveries of Claymore whisky were halted to part of the Landmark cash-and-carry concern, both of which supply smaller retail outlets.

International Distillers & Vintners stopped supplies of Croft Original sherry to Landmark. Seagram has also had problems with price-cutting affecting White Satin gin.

It must be remembered that tax on a standard bottle of



Scotch may well be £5-55 or more when value added tax is applied on top of duty.

Suppliers cannot, of course, fix the retail selling price. They can deliver only when a buyer sells a product on at below cost price.

John Petty

SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW PRICES VARY

	Bell's whisky	Gordon's gin	Bacardi rum	Smirnoff vodka	Clasiano Blanco	Malibu Rum
Asda	£7.38	£6.59	£7.28	£6.55	£2.98	£6.98
Waitrose	£7.45	£6.75	£7.45	£6.85	£2.98	£6.98
Oaklands	£7.45	£6.75	£7.45	£6.85	£2.98	£6.98
Peter Domic	£7.45	£6.75	£7.45	£6.85	£2.98	£6.98
Sainsbury	£7.45	£6.75	£7.45	£6.85	£2.98	£6.98
Victoria Wine	£7.45	£6.75	£7.45	£6.85	£2.98	£6.98
Thornhill	£7.45	£6.75	£7.45	£6.85	£2.98	£6.98

WINE AS AN INVESTMENT

CLASSIC wines have their own equivalent of the Football League. In 1955 the Medoc wines of the Bordeaux area were graded according to the prices fetched at auction. The gradations are known as "growths", and a wine in any of the four growths is a "grand vin" which should be both delicious and a good investment.

The French are serious about their wine, and the growth classifications are treated with particular gravity. Despite much grumbling about the old categories not reflecting atmospheric and soil conditions there has been only one change, when Mouton Rothschild was elevated from the second division to the first in 1973.

The promotion of this lusty red was matched for publicity only by the occasion Manchester United won back their place in the footballing first division, yet the change was purely one

LIQUID ASSETS

If you are still buying the wine for Christmas, how about buying some to last a little longer? Harry Scott looks at the investment prospects of this liquid asset.

of status, net quality. For the world of the classic wines it was a momentous event. We British are taking our wine more seriously too: consumption at least has shot up, with 102 million litres imported in the first nine months of 1984, a 16 per cent increase on last year. Of course the vast majority of it is all pleasant, unexceptional stuff which is good to drink but will not per-

form well as an appreciating investment.

The two principal wines which dominate us as investors are the top Bordeaux from the handful of important vineyards in the growth categorisations, and Port. Merchants are wary of Burgundies, because quantities produced can vary very low and they may find themselves paying high prices for a wine of relatively poor quality.

For example, a peer spring and variable autumn this year have caused millerandage, a failure of the grapes to swell, which has reduced the yield per hectare. The price of the 1984 vintage has remained firm, simply because of scarcity value, yet from the connoisseur's viewpoint the wine is a disappointment.

The tension between the interest of the profit-taker and the drinker underpins the business of investing in wine. The profit-taker who is not happy to drink the occasional glass, cannot be bothered to spend the drinker's swig down cases at hundreds of pounds a time unless he or she has other assets which make a little space for self-indulgence.

For those interested primarily in financial returns, the capital growth can be spectacular. Chateau Beycheville, a fourth growth St Julien, rose from auction price of £9.95 per bottle in autumn of 1982 to £15.25 per bottle two years later, an increase of 53 p.c. Chateau Palmer, a third growth Margaux, has increased its sale value by 65.70 p.c. over the same period.

In the longer term, a case of 1991 Chateau Latour would now sell at approximately £2,500 at auction. The same case would have cost between £24 and £36 some 20 years ago.

How to invest? Most merchants have a wine investment plan where subscribers pay a regular monthly sum and a collection of wine is built up for them with a view to both capital growth and consumption. Lloyd's Life runs an investment plan in association with wine merchants Lay & Wheeler in which half the investor's money goes into a ten year life plan with assurance cover and a tax-free sum at the end.

The other half is invested straight into wine by Lay & Wheeler. The abolition of premium relief on life assurance contracts has made this plan less attractive, and the emphasis is now on straight investment in wine itself.

Investing in wine with a merchant entails expenditure in two instalments by the investor. The first bill they must pay is when the merchant purchases wine, "en primeur" in the casks at auction. This is an expert job best left to the professional.

The investor owns the wine when he has paid for it, but it will still be in the casks in Bordeaux. He or she will be able to see it after the second instalment is paid, perhaps as much as two or three years after purchase, when the wine is bottled and imported into the U.K.

This portion of cash is spent on the irritating incidentals of

getting the bottles into the merchant's cellar—carriage, import duty, and appropriately enough, V.A.T.

Then Ferguson, of Lay & Wheeler, describes interest in the firm's monthly plan as healthy, with over 500 clients subscribing between £15 and £500 per month. He enthuses about monthly payment as a way of investing in wine, but stresses that treating it purely as an investment will tend to inflate prices artificially and may lead to investor dissatisfaction.

He believes that an investor must be happy to drink his wine if prices fall, as they sometimes do. "I wouldn't want a garage full of cocoa for example, but I'd be happy with one full of wine which I could share and appreciate," he says.

It seems clear that wine is an investment of a special sort, with two types of benefit if an investor actually enjoys drinking it. It is not in financial terms always a corking investment for those with the "hottle" to stay committed to it. Nor is vintage desert wine simply an opportunity for making money. It should sometimes be savoured with the Siltou.

Wine, say the experts, is ultimately for drinking, especially over the festive season.

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New York: DJ Ind Av 1,233.22 (-10.93)
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow 11178.54 (-119.12)
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£000s		price	week	Div (p)	% Actual	Taxed
6,025	Ass. Brit. Ind. Ord.	156.00	-1	6.6	4.6	7.5
1,431	Ass. Brit. Ind. CGLS	143.00	-3	10.8	8.0	9.0
3,068	Airbus Group	55	+1	6.4	12.0	5.9
1,030	Armstrong & Rhodes	41	-1	2.9	7.0	5.1
41,434	Barton Hill	133	+2	3.4	2.6	12.4
2,420	Bray Technologies	44	-1	3.5	8.0	5.1
2,620	CCL Ordinary	173	-1	12.0	6.9	-
5,380	CCL 11 p.c. Conv. Pref.	114.00	-4	15.7	13.8	-
1,434	Carborundum Ord.	80	-1	5.7	0.7	-
1,434	Carborundum 7.5% Pref.	84	-1	10.7	12.9	-
1,434	Cindico Group	82	-1	6.5	9.8	6.3
1,434	Deborah Services	25	-1	4.5	14.8	10.8
1,434	Frank Horsell	210	-1	9.6	4.6	12.6
1,434	Frank Horsell Pr. Ord. 87	206	-1	9.6	4.6	12.6
1,434	Frederick Parker	25	-1	4.5	14.8	10.8
1,434	George Blair	50	+2	-	-	3.4
1,434	Ind. Precision Castings	30	-2	2.7	9.0	8.2
1,434	Isis Group	209	-1	13.0	7.5	7.8
1,434	Jackson Group	189	+1	4.9	4.5	10.0
1,434	James Burroughs	202	+1	13.7	4.9	10.6
1,434	John Howard & Company	83	-1	12.8	8.9	10.0
1,434	Lingaphone Ord.	139	-1	5.0	6.6	7.7
1,434	Lingaphone 10.5% Pref.	139	-1	15.9	16.1	-
1,434	Mindhouse Holding N.V.	53	+15	3.8	0.7	40.6
1,434	Robert Jenkins	37	-1	5.0	15.8	4.4
1,434	Scruttons' Ord.	57	-1	5.7	20.4	19.8
1,434	Trevian Holdings	30	-1	4.5	1.1	21.4
1,434	Unilock Holdings	23	+3	1.3	5.1	12.1
1,434	Water Alexander	51	-1	15.5	9.2	9.9
1,434	W. S. Yeates	226	-1	17.4	7.7	5.4

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Sport... ON 5 PAGES

CANNY DANNY IS FORM CHOICE IN SGB 'CHASE

By HOSPUR (Peter Scott)

CANNY DANNY, the one horse to finish anywhere near Burrough Hill Lad in Newbury's Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup three weeks ago, can pay the champion 'chaser another form tribute by winning the SGB Handicap Chase at Ascot today.

Canny Danny, receiving 21lb was beaten four lengths by Burrough Hill Lad in the Hennessy but finished 20 lengths clear of the remainder. Gaye Chance and Kumhi, third and fifth, were both good midweek winners at Haydock Park.

Fortuna's Express, the Hennessy fourth, tackles Canny Danny again today, but is only 1lb better off with him.

Races on TV

12.50 ASCOT	BBC
1.25 DONCASTER	BBC
1.55 ASCOT	ITV
2.15 DONCASTER	ITV
2.45 DONCASTER	ITV

TODAY'S ASCOT SELECTIONS

HOSPUR	COURSE CORR.	FORM
12.50-Brown Trax	12.50-Northern Trial	12.55-Crumbin
1.25-CANNY DANNY	1.25-RICHIEZ (top)	1.25-Crumbin (top)
1.55-Crumbin	1.55-Kristensen	1.55-Crumbin
2.30-Brave George	2.30-Rafagan	2.30-Brave George
2.50-Bickeligh Bridge	2.50-Rafagan	2.50-Brave George

HOSPUR'S DOUBLE: Canny Danny and Towley Stone (1.45 Doncaster) TONY STAFFORD—Towley Stone (2.30 Towcester)

Richdee, Duke of Milan and Tom's Little Al are SGB 'Chase' bugs with notable Ascot wins in their names. Duke of Milan and Richdee have especially good Ascot records, while Greenwood might well have beaten the Irish-trained favourite Bellincurra had there been a last season's Embassy Premier Chase Final but for his last force fall.

See You Then, Desert Orchid and Northern Trial are Champion Hurdle hopes due to meet in the H.S. Hires Shops Hurdle. See You Then is most prominent in the Cheltenham market, while Desert Orchid has joint third favourite with Ra Nova.

See You Then, second to the Irish-trained Northern Trial in the Daily Express Trial Hurdle last spring, and Desert Orchid have both finished third to Ra Nova this season.



Towley Stone (Graham McCourt), unbeaten in two races over fences, defends that record in today's Freebooter Novices' Chase at Doncaster.

to good enough for the Frogmere Chase.

Both the Frogmere Chase and the Sheila's Cottage Chase at Doncaster are valuable handicaps, over approximately two miles, and their clash has affected both fields.

Little 'hap' represents better class than his Doncaster opponents, but is such a difficult rider that I prefer the improved Mossy Moore.

The Freebooter Novices' Chase at Doncaster should go to Towley Stone, whose impressive Ascot win against good opposition last month suggests he is the season's most promising two-mile novice.

Cyranidam, a 20lb chance in Cheltenham Gold Cup, has been a good winner this season at distances in excess of two miles. With only Emmanon opposing him in the Embassy Premier, 'Chase' qualifier, Cyranidam should win again.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

ASCOT
Course: 12.50 (2m) (11)
1.25-CANNY DANNY (21lb)
1.55-Crumbin (21lb)
2.30-Brave George (21lb)
2.50-Bickeligh Bridge (21lb)

STATE-OF-GOING

Advantage: going for Mossy Moore, 'Chase' 'good', 'good' to 'good'.

HOSPUR'S 'TWELVE'

Towley Stone (1.45), Doncaster to follow, followed today.

Ascot programme

Racecard numbers shown on left. Figures before oblique stroke refer to pre-1983 form, and before hyphen to 1983-4. Riders' allowance in brackets. C—course winner. D—distance. B—beaten favourite. E—brought down. F—fell. P—pulled up. U—unseated rider. R—refused.

Advance official going: GOOD TO SOFT

12.15 (Jackpot Prefix 1): KILLINEY NOVICES' CHASE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

12.50 (Prefix 2): H.S. HIRES SHOPS HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

1.25 (Prefix 3): SGB HANDICAP CHASE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
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1.55 (Prefix 4): LONG WALK HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
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11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.30 (Prefix 5): FROGMORE HANDICAP CHASE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
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10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 6): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 7): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 8): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 9): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 10): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 11): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 12): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 13): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 14): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 15): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

2.50 (Prefix 16): HAMPTON COURT HANDICAP HURDLE

2m 547.2 (6 declared)
1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
4.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
5.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
6.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
7.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
8.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
11.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
12.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom

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1.001-PIU RANBY (21lb) (F) J. Webster, 5-10-15... C. Merzagh
2.1514-2 BROWN TRIX (21lb) (F) C. Crumlin, 5-10-12... P. Francom
3.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
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9.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Francom
10.0013-2 CLAUDE MONET (21lb) (F) J. White, 5-10-12... P. Fran

League matches today

(Kick off 3 unless stated)

CANON LGE—Div. I

- 1 Arsenal v. W. Bromwich
- 2 Aston Villa v. Liverpool
- 3 Chelsea v. Stoke
- 4 Coventry v. Southampton
- 5 Everton v. Nottm. F.
- 6 Ipswich v. Rotherham
- 7 Leicester v. Luton
- 8 Man. Utd v. Q.P.R.
- 9 Newcastle v. Norwich
- 10 Watford v. Tottenham
- 11 West Ham v. St. Albans

DIVISION II

- 12 Barnsley v. Cardiff
- 13 Cardiff v. Wrexham
- 14 Charlton v. Man. City
- 15 Grimsby v. C. Palace
- 16 Leeds v. Birmingham
- 17 Oldham v. Carlisle
- 18 Portsmouth v. Shrewsbury
- 19 Sheffield Utd v. Brighton
- 20 Wolves v. Blackburn

DIVISION III

- 21 Bolton v. Millwall
- 22 Bournemouth v. Bristol C.
- 23 Bristol R. v. Swindon
- 24 Burnley v. Gillingham
- 25 Derby v. Orient
- 26 Exeter v. Walsley
- 27 Lincoln v. Gillingham
- 28 Plymouth v. Cambridge
- 29 Preston v. Accrington
- 30 Reading v. Bradford
- 31 Rotherham v. Work

DIVISION IV

- 32 Crewe v. Chesterfield
- 33 Exeter v. Peterborough
- 34 Hartlepool v. Northampton
- 35 Hereford v. Halifax
- 36 Mansfield v. Scunthorpe
- 37 Port Vale v. Darlington
- 38 Rochdale v. Southend
- 39 Swindon v. Colchester
- 40 Torquay v. Blackpool
- 41 Tranmere v. Aldershot (3.15)
- 42 Wrexham v. Bury

GOLA LEAGUE

- 43 Gateshead v. Altrincham
- 44 Kidderminster v. Maidstone
- 45 Norwich v. W. Gengenham
- 46 Runcorn v. Scarborough

SCOTTISH LGE—Prem. Div.

- 1 Aberdeen v. Dundee
- 2 Dundee Utd v. Hearts
- 3 Hibernian v. Celtic
- 4 Morton v. Dunfermline
- 5 Rangers v. St. Mirren

SCOTTISH LGE—Div. I

- 6 Ayr v. East Fife
- 7 Brechin v. Kilmarnock
- 8 Dundee F.C. v. Dundee Utd
- 9 Hamilton v. Clydebank
- 10 Meadowbank v. Clyde
- 11 Motherwell v. Forth
- 12 St. Johnstone v. Airdrie

SCOTTISH LGE—Div. II

- 13 Arbroath v. Berwick
- 14 Cowdenbeath v. Albion
- 15 E. Fife v. Raith
- 16 Queen of South v. Dunfermline
- 17 Stirling Albion v. Montrose
- 18 Stirling v. Queen's Park

SCOTTISH LGE—1st & 2nd Div.

- 19 Gala F.C. v. Stranraer (1.30)

SOCCER FIX—SUNDAY

- 10.00 v. Fulham (15)

REAL MADRID NEXT HURDLE FOR SPURS

By MICHAEL CALVIN

THE prospect of further English domination of European club football was enhanced in Zurich yesterday when Tottenham received the tantalising task of taking their defence of the UEFA Cup into Real Madrid's awe-inspiring Bernabeu Stadium.

Liverpool, the Football League's other holders of significant European silverware, have every reason to be confident of ending Austria Vienna's interest in the champions' Cup.

Everton are capable of frustrating Fortuna Sittard. Even Tottenham's new club, in the Cup-Winners' Cup, and Manchester United have the experience to combat the inevitable uncertainties of a UEFA Cup tie against the unknown Hungarians of Videoton.

But, for all the shared sense of satisfaction after the draw for the quarter-finals of the Continent's three major competitions, the suspicion persists that Spurs' meeting with one of the great clubs of world football will be worth the wait.

Tottenham have the disadvantage of playing the first leg on Monday at home, but Peter Shrews, their manager, enthused: "It's a super draw, a match with a tremendous competitive about it."

Mr. Shrews is grateful to avoid a domestic confrontation with United, will begin his preparations by consulting Terry Venables at home, but he will play at Barcelona on Dec. 30.

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Glenn Hoddle receiving treatment yesterday from Mike Varney, the Tottenham physiotherapist, following the tough match in Czechoslovakia. Hoddle is out of today's team at Watford.

Highbury clues to the Championship

By ROGER MALONE

WEST BROMWICH ALBION'S visit to Highbury today will provide significant pointers to a Championship race more open than many years—and Charlie

Tottenham go to Watford, realising victory could result in top place. But Watford, where the home side's accent on hard-running attacks, could prove an exciting arena for visitors looking to score many goals.

Yet only Glenn Hoddle, with multiple injuries, is ruled out of the side which finished in Prague. His 40-minute replacement, Gary Mabbutt, kept his place in midfield underlining his versatility after performing creditably at left-back through last month and indicating that Steve Ardlie is still not ready for the real thing.

Arnold Mühren's winning goal for Manchester United to the 2-1 success over Dundee United has put the Red Devils in place against Queen's Park Rangers, the darling of the little Danish wing, dropped for the first time.

United could also move into place, but first they have to master a Rangers side who found themselves again in Mill Cup mastery of Southampton in midweek, and who expect winger Ian Stewart to have shaken off a slight thigh injury.

Coventry make no secret of midfielder David Bowman's desire to leave the club, but the club's manager, John Docherty, says he will not let him go until he has been replaced by a new signing.

It can be ascertained, though, that Steve Williams, who was to discover if he is to be sold to Arsenal, remains inactive. Although Mark Whitlock suffered a midweek knock, it seems unlikely that Mark Wright, following his self-confessed brawling with management, would be a replacement.

West Ham may attempt to solve their scoring famine by giving Dave Swindlehurst his first start since September, against an unchanged Sheffield Wednesday, also looking to re-ignite.

Aston Villa's search for their best side sees Didier Six and Paul Birch recalled against Liverpool, with the champions' scoreless John Deehan returning at Newcastle and Steve McCall has shaken off a leg injury for his 157th consecutive game for Ipswich against Sunderland.

Luton's £250,000 new striker Mick Harford has passed fit to play at Leicester, Norwich's leading scorer John Deehan returning at Newcastle and Steve McCall has shaken off a leg injury for his 157th consecutive game for Ipswich against Sunderland.

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Smith sparkles to foil Moet double

By ALAN SMITH

HARVEY SMITH matched Cordoba, his new purchase from Germany, with the established speedster Sanyo Cadica to win the Cognac Courvoisier

Two-Horse Stakes at the Olympia International yesterday, foiling a double for the Moet and Chandon team.

Smith rode Cordoba for the first time at the Bordeaux show last week, and said then that he thought she would be a useful addition to his string.

Going halfway through yesterday's relay competition, Smith overtook Geoff Billington, and then held off the challenge of Brazilian Nelson Pessoa, oldest-established star of the champagne firm's show-jumping team.

Zoe Bates, one of the newest Moet riders after signing a contract in August, took the Vauxhall Coupe Showjumper award on Carnival.

Enterprise pays off Miss Bates, 21, daughter of Essex businessman and former point-to-point rider, Michael Bates, is as enterprising as she is talented. She went out and found the sponsorship she needed last summer and the move is proving well-received.

Along with several sportsmen and women sponsored by Moet in a variety of pursuits, she is being taken to Courchevel today for a skiing holiday.

Nick Skelton and Everest Radnor, going second in a big field for the Courvoisier Fault and Out, were the only combination to jump 12 fences and set a target that proved unbeatable.

Michael Whitaker and Colourway, who finished second and third in Bordeaux last weekend, again took a minor placing, just ahead of Hugo Simon of Austria.

Hugo Simon and The Freak, his natural successor to his fine horse, Gladstone, were the only one to clear the planks at 8ft 3in to win the Courvoisier Two-Fence Challenge.

Lucinda Green, Britain's World three-day event champion, has been appointed to the three-day event committee of the International Equestrian Federation.

Britain now have members on all the disciplinary committees of the Federation except driving.

The next World three-day event championship will be held in South Australia in 1986. The organisers have agreed to pay all Mrs Green's expenses and 80 per cent of all other competitors.

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TELEVISION - SUNDAY

GUIDE BY RONALD HASTINGS

BBC-1

8.55 a.m. Heads and Tails, rpt. 9.10 People First: A Home of One's Own, rpt. 9.25 Making the Most of the Micro: At the End of the Line. Last of these repeats. 10 Asian Magazine. 10.30 Languages for Life: Lingue per la Vita, Italian version, rpt. 10.35 Sunday Worship from Knockbush, Belfast. 11.00 See Hear! Christmas Special. 12.30 Farming: Weather. 12.55 Major Roundabout, rpt. 1.10 This Week Next Week, with David Dimbleby. 1.50 Face the Music: music quiz. 2.25 10 in the World. 11.56, b/w; or up the ladder, with window-cleaner Norman Wisdom, who becomes friendly with a wealthy lady who is about to be kidnapped. 2.55 Show Jumping, from Olympia. 3.10 The Dukes of Hazard: Targets, Daisy and Lulu.

6.00 THE PRISONER OF ZENDA—Episode five of six. (Ceefax subtitles.)

6.30 NEWS, WEATHER.

6.40 SONGS OF PRAISE—Christmas Is Coming. With several hundred children and students gathered in

BBC-2

11 a.m. 12.30 p.m. Open University. 1.55 Horizon: A Mathematical Mystery Tour, rpt. 2.45 World Chess Championship: Anatoly Karpov v Gary Kasparov. 3.15 George Orwell: 1984. Last of these repeats. 4.15 Music from St. George's: The Bachmann Quartet in string quartet world of Flower. 4.30 From Bristol. 5.25 Ski Sunday: Men's Downhill from Val Gardena.

6.00 NEWS REVIEW.

6.30 THE MONEY PROGRAMME—Including Travelling Hopefully, prospects for package holidays next season, and Stimulating Sales, ground training for airline pilots, a big export industry.

7.15 SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS—Richard Stilgoe introducing music from Chichester Festival Theatre by the Band of the Royal Marines, the Cambridge

ITV London Weekend

8.55 a.m. Good Morning Britain, with Thought for a Sunday. 9.25 Rub-a-dub-Tub. 9.25 Cartoon Time. 9.35 The Smurfs: No Nose for Smurfs. 9.40 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 1. 10.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 2. 11.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 3. 11.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 4. 12.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 5. 12.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 6. 1.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 7. 1.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 8. 2.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 9. 2.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 10. 3.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 11. 3.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 12. 4.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 13. 4.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 14. 5.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 15. 5.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 16. 6.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 17. 6.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 18. 7.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 19. 7.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 20. 8.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 21. 8.30 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 22. 9.00 The Smurfs: The Smurfs' No. 23. 9.30 The Smurfs: 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ROLLED AND DRAWN STEEL SECTIONS

15 16 14 18
19 17 21 20
22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33

1. Relating to money
2. Land
3. Devil
4. Rigual
5. Abrupt
6. Roof beam.
7. Scottish playwright
8. Blush
9. Trial
10. Deep male voice

A S A E
 L A T C O M E R D R I E R
 I C H S N E
 M A R A T M O O N L I G H T
 I R S A N E R R
 T R I M M E R A P P E A S E
 E A C G E T A
 D E R A N G E E A R N S T A

Yesterday's Quick Solution

Christmas Day day of the year.

monsoons brought since Monday by a cyclone from the Indian Ocean have created weather problems for famine-relief flights and have closed one airfield to the RAF at Alamogordo where the earth runway became waterlogged.

**LEADER OUT
OF HIDING**

Underground Solidarity's second ranking official came out of hiding yesterday to help his pregnant wife, who five months ago was beaten by the

MEMORIAL SERVICE

GLAZIER—A Memorial Service for MAXWELL GLAZIER, 3111...
Memorial Service, Herbert...
Past President, Queen Victoria...
Rifles Association and the...
Club, at St George's Church...
Society, W.L., on Friday, Jan...
1903, at 11 a.m.

IN MEMORIAM

A S A E
 L A T C O M E R D R I E R
 I C H S N E
 M A R A T M O O N L I G H T
 I R S A N E R R
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IN MEMORIAM

[illegible]

men have told the bidding time
nionists that if they appear
before the year's end they will
not be arrested or face legal
proceedings. But Solidarity
supporters fear that if innu-
endoes are not refuted, the organisa-
tion will collapse.

...and the fact that the ...